



The Arlington Advocate



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The East Arlington Good Neighbors Association and the North Cambridge Crime Task Force distributed flyers and held a safety walk Tuesday in the Alewife area. The walk focused on the lack of lighting along the Donald R. Marquis Minuteman Trail near the MBTA station. Within the past couple of months, five women have reported being indecently assaulted or followed by a man in that area.

Fighting crime through education

Community groups distribute literature, host safety walk

BY LES G. MASTERSON
STAFF WRITER

After the recent string of indecent assaults, burglaries, and muggings in the area, the East Arlington Good Neighbors Association and the North Cambridge Crime Task Force have joined forces in an attempt to educate the public.

On Tuesday evening, representatives from the two groups, along with Arlington, Cam-

bridge, and Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority police, state Rep. Anne Paulsen (D-Belmont), and state Rep. Alice Wolf (D-Cambridge) handed out literature, flashlights, and key chains to T users at the Alewife station.

"We want to get out information to let people know the safe way to travel the bike path," said Selectman Diane Mahon. "Arlington and Cambridge are working together to get the message out on strategies for people

to feel safer."

Over the past couple of months, five women reported either being groped or followed by a black man, around 5 feet, 5 inches, with a slim build, and wearing sports clothing and a knit hat. Police nearly caught the suspect on Dec. 12, but the man assaulted an MBTA police officer, before fleeing the Alewife station.

In addition, there have been two reported and one attempted muggings on East Arlington streets since November and there were two burglaries on the same day last month.

After distributing hundreds of

flyers to commuters who rushed to and from Red Line trains Tuesday, Mahon led a walk from the Alewife station to the Donald R. Marquis Minuteman Trail to illuminate the lighting problem in the area.

Stopping outside the station, Mahon showed an area where she is proposing a "buddy stop," a sheltered spot where path users will be able to wait for others so they can walk the trail together. After the indecent assaults, police recommended that women pair up when walking on the darkened trail.

"When you leave the T sta-

■ SEE ALEWIFE, PAGE 13

Field house bounced from capital plan

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

The Capital Planning Committee has denied funding for a field house to be built on the Arlington High School campus until school officials produce a plan to fund the four remaining elementary schools.

In a memo to Superintendent of Schools Kay Donovan, Town Counsel John Maher and Director of Planning and Community Development Alan McLennen, Capital Planning Chairman Charles Fosskett outlined a list of concerns on the subject of funding a field house.

Most importantly, "It would be financially irresponsible and probably politically futile to propose funding the field house when there is no financing plan in place, including the possibility of one or more debt-exclusions, for the unfinished elementary renovations," Fosskett said in his memo.

"If you can afford a field house, why can't you afford the elementary schools that you already promised to the voters?" Fosskett said.

"They're two separate issues," Donovan said. "The schools have been funded through debt exclusion."

Donovan added that she felt the School Department had adequately addressed the question of cost overruns for the four remaining elementary schools, expected to come in at around \$10 million.

She said private sector bids are lower due to the declining construction market and that the schools have tried to secure a greater amount of state reimbursement through the State Building Assistance Program.

Taking immediate steps, Donovan got approval from the School Committee Tuesday night to submit its own warrant article to gain funding for a field house. The School Department is looking to borrow approximately \$8 million for a facility.

The Capital Planning Committee left room to bring the field house back if money from corporate parties as part of the Peirce Field cleanup could be provided early on in the project. Members also said the field house could be introduced later in the capital finance plan.

Donovan, Maher and McLennen were part of the negotiating team that settled a deal to clean up contamination at the Warren A. Peirce field and other areas of the high school campus with three corporate parties, who inherited responsibility for hazardous materials buried under the ground at that site.

Part of the settlement included \$2.7 million to build an athletic facility on the former soccer field that is now closed due to extensive contamination. The parties negotiated that a foundation for a field house would represent a "cap" on top of the site. That has

■ SEE FIELD HOUSE, PAGE 13

'If you can afford a field house, why can't you afford the elementary schools that you already promised to the voters?'

CHARLES FOSSKETT
CAPITAL PLANNING
CHAIRMAN

Symmes on agenda for Monday

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

The purchase of the Symmes campus has moved through the major boards and — with one more approval — will stand before Town Meeting Monday night.

The Finance Committee approved the plan for Symmes Hospital last Wednesday by a vote of 16-2. Chairman Allan Tosti said he anticipates the town leasing the land to a private company.

"I think the expectation would be to consider the restrictions we want and put it out to a developer," Tosti said.

The Finance Committee's report states, "This will be one of the most important issues to come before the Town Meeting in many years. The Symmes property is the most visible and one of the largest single parcels in the town. Its development will have a lasting impact, either positively or negatively, on our community for

■ SEE SYMMES, PAGE 14

Gradual kindergarten entrance date change proposed

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

A compromise recommendation has been forwarded to the Arlington School Committee to gradually change the minimum age at which children can enter kindergarten over the next three years.

Last Thursday, the Policies and Procedures Subcommittee voted to draft a recommendation where all students will have to reach their fifth birthday by Aug. 31, 2005 in order to enter kinder-

garten that year.

The current system allows students to enter kindergarten if they reach their fifth birthday by Dec. 31 of the calendar year.

"What's going to happen in the next couple of years is that people are going to have to think about the readiness of their child and that's a good thing," said policy committee member Paul Schlichtman.

According to the proposal, no changes are scheduled this year. In September 2003, children who have reached the age of 5 by Oct.

31 may enter kindergarten. In addition, children reaching the age of 5 between Nov. 1 and Dec. 31, who are eligible for a waiver may also enter kindergarten.

And, in September 2004, children who have reached the age of 5 by Aug. 31 may enter kindergarten. Parents can apply for waivers for their child if his or her birthday falls between Sept. 1 and Dec. 31.

Piecing together a compromise was important because of the large amount of parental involvement on this issue, said subcom-

mittee Chairman Martin Thrope, but also to keep enrollment fairly steady.

"We would have been looking at a 17 percent dip followed by a 17 percent spike," Thrope said.

Approximately 17 percent of students who enter kindergarten in a given year have a birthday between Sept. 1 and Dec. 31.

"(A waiver) is a determination that parents, often in conjunction with preschool staff, are already making," Thrope said in an e-mail to the public. "The only difference is that the determination would

be shared with the public schools."

A report produced by the administration supporting the change showed that the vast majority of public school systems were found to have a Sept. 1 cutoff. It also argued that evidence shows children with fall birthdays have more academic problems in school and younger children have trouble focusing for a full-day of kindergarten.

Thrope said most of those schools do not allow waivers, but

■ SEE KINDERGARTEN, PAGE 13

Volunteer Club spreads cheer during holidays

BY AMY DIMASI
CORRESPONDENT

Arlington High School's Volunteer Club has been working hard to make it a happy holiday season for Boston area residents struggling to make ends meet.

The club, led by Mary Villano, consists of more than 50 members who are active in many community service projects in the area.

"I love the enthusiasm of the students involved and their willingness to help with a wide range of projects," said Villano. "These are great kids who really care about people. It is a pleasure to work with them."

The day before Thanksgiving, club members served Thanksgiving dinner at a Salvation Army soup kitchen in Central Square, which has been a club tradition for the last five years. Before the

meal, the students prepared platters of food, set up the furniture, and filled bags with food to deliver to those who couldn't come in to the kitchen to eat.

The club members also served the entire meal. Soon after, the club teamed up with Salvation Army again to participate in the "Dress Me Bear Project," another activity the group has been involved with for the last five years. Salvation Army supplied the students with bears to clothe, which are given to homeless children for Christmas.

"The projects we have worked on so far this year are important because they really help the most needy and vulnerable people in our society," said Villano. "It feels good to make a small but positive contribution to making the world a better place for others."

The Volunteer Club also started

■ SEE VOLUNTEERS, PAGE 13



Arlington High School Volunteer Club members Melissa Chen, Stephanie Taylor, help out at the Salvation Army in Central Square.

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FOR THE RECORD

POLICE LOG

The following are excerpts from the Arlington Police Department log. The log is available to the public.

Monday, Dec. 31

- At 2:22 p.m., a Heath Road resident reported that someone had broken into an apartment. There was nothing reported missing, but police found a marijuana and pipe that was allegedly left by the burglar.

Tuesday, Jan. 1

- At 1:08 p.m., a Medford Street resident told police that he was receiving annoying phone calls.
- At 4:58 p.m., police received a call concerning a cat bite on Summit Street.
- At 6:42 p.m., a Fairmont Street resident reported that someone broke into a residence by prying open the door. Nothing was reported missing. Police are unsure whether this burglary is connected to two recent incidents in East Arlington.

Wednesday, Jan. 2

- At 8:14 a.m., police received a call regarding a man digging in trash on Davis Avenue.
- At 11:55 a.m., a woman reported that a man grabbed his crotch when she said "hello" to him on the Donald R. Marquis Minuteman Trail. According to police, there is no connection between this call and the recent indecent assaults on the trail.
- At 3:06 p.m., a Decatur Street resident told police that a purse was stolen from a home. There was no forced entry.

Thursday, Jan. 3

- At 1:31 p.m., police responded to a call regarding a cat bite on Summer Street.
- At 4:34 p.m., police received a call concerning kids throwing items from a Goodwill box on Massachusetts Avenue.

Saturday, Jan. 5

- At 9:01 p.m., a Gardner Street resident told police that a living room window was broken.

Monday, Dec. 31

- At 3:45 p.m., police arrested Virgil Aquino, 30, 390 Geneva Ave., Dorchester, and charged him with being a disorderly person, resisting arrest, assault and battery on a police officer, and violating a restraining order. Officers responded to a fight at Mystic and Summer streets. When they arrived, they separated the individuals and checked their records for warrants. Officer Jennifer McGurl found a warrant for Aquino and attempted to place him under arrest. The Dorchester man resisted and began flailing his arms, striking Officer James Fitzpatrick with an elbow. Five officers were able to wrestle Aquino to the ground. McGurl made the arrest.
- At 5:15 p.m., police arrested Michelle E. Deree, 32, 1370 Broadway, Somerville, and charged her with being a disorderly person and resisting arrest. Officer Jennifer McGurl made the arrest.

Tuesday, Jan. 1

- At 3:20 a.m., police arrested Lisa P. Hobbs, 23, 58 Prescott St., Medford, and charged her with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol and a marked lanes violation. Police received numerous calls for a motor vehicle accident on Pleasant Street. Officers responded and found a car with two flat front tires and front end damage near Lakeview Avenue. Officers spoke to the operator of the vehicle, Hobbs, could smell alcohol, and noticed that her speech was slurred and her eyes were bloodshot and glassy. When asked if she had been drinking, Hobbs acknowledged to drinking two beers at a friend's house in Arlington, but she couldn't provide the address. She added that she had been arguing with a passenger when she swerved her vehicle and lost control of the car, striking the curb and leaving

Sunday, Jan. 6

- At 5:28 p.m., a cellular phone caller reported that someone was

Arrests

50 feet of skid marks. Officer Jennifer McGurl asked Hobbs to perform field sobriety tests, which the woman failed. McGurl made the arrest.

- At 7 p.m., police arrested David J. McGimpsey, 41, 59 Baker St., Belmont, and charged him on a warrant for speeding and driving after the suspension of his license. Officer Douglas Cronin pulled over McGimpsey on Massachusetts Avenue and found that he had a warrant. Cronin made the arrest.

- At 8:06 p.m., police arrested Anne Marie McLaughlin, 37, 16 Lafayette St., and charged her with being a disorderly person, resisting arrest, and assault and battery on a police officer. Police responded to a report of a disturbance on Lafayette Street. Officers spotted McLaughlin on Massachusetts Avenue and the woman tried to walk away from police. She also struck Sgt. Juliann Flaherty. Officer Stephen Krepelka made the arrest.

Wednesday, Jan. 2

- At 10:30 p.m., police arrested Waino W. Kangas, 2 Brattle Dr., Apt. #5, 41, and charged him with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol and speeding. Officer Douglas Cronin spotted Kangas' vehicle travelling at 67 mph in a 40 mph zone on the Concord Turnpike. Cronin pulled over the vehicle. When he approached the man, the officer noticed that Kangas' eyes were bloodshot and glassy and his speech was slurred. Cronin requested that Kangas perform field sobriety tests, which the man failed. Cronin made the arrest.

Friday, Jan. 4

- At 3:30 p.m., police arrested Mark C. Henebury, 35, 70 Boston St., Somerville, and charged him with shoplifting, resisting arrest and possessing a Class A substance (heroin) and a hypoder-

mic syringe of needle, and Michael A. Pereira, 37, 25 Walker St., Somerville, and charged him with shoplifting and trespassing. Police responded to a shoplifting call at the Arlington Center Walgreens. Officers detained the two men and opened a blue canvas bag, which Pereira was carrying. Police found more than \$350 worth of drugs that were taken from Walgreens. While searching Henebury, police found heroin. Officer Sean Hetherman made the arrests.

Saturday, Jan. 5

- At 3:10 a.m., police arrested Aaron M. Weiss, 25, 1228 Massachusetts Ave., and charged him with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. Officer James Kiernan responded to a call on Pleasant Street concerning a car on the wrong side of the road. When he arrived, the officer found the car against the curb on the wrong side of the street. While coming from Route 2 to Pleasant Street, the driver did not turn and the car struck an island at the end of the access ramp. Kiernan asked Weiss to perform field sobriety tests, which the man failed. Kiernan made the arrest.

- At 10:30 p.m., police arrested Sean P. Hicks, 28, 399 Creasant Ave., Chelsea, and charged him with operating an unregistered motor vehicle and larceny of property worth more than \$250. Officer James Fitzpatrick responded to a call about five hours before the arrest regarding two men stealing around 50 DVD movies from West Coast Video. The pair fled the store in a brown van that turned left on Massachusetts Avenue toward Cambridge. Fitzpatrick arrested one of the men, Hicks.

ident told police that a person in a white van left rubbish on a property.

Correction

In the story "Armenian teens, educators learn about peace, democracy" in the Jan. 3 issue, *The Advocate* named the wrong host parents for Naomi Howard. The host parents are Bill Thompson and Patti Muldoon.

FIRE LOG

The Arlington Fire Department responded to 65 calls from Dec. 31-Jan. 6, including 34 with Rescue, three fire alarms, and 11 investigations. References to paramedics denote two-medical teams from Armstrong Ambulance Service, a private Arlington-based ambulance company. The following are excerpts from the Fire Department log; the information is available to the public.

Tuesday, Jan. 1

- At 3:37 a.m., a 64-year-old Harlow Street resident complained of having shortness of breath. Firefighters checked the man's vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue with paramedics transported him to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

- At 8:18 a.m., the Fire Department received a call concerning a hockey player who collapsed at the Veterans Memorial Skating Rink. Firefighters checked the 29-year-old man's vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue with paramedics transported him to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

Wednesday, Jan. 2

- At 6:33 a.m., firefighters responded to a call regarding a small kitchen fire in a Broadway

eatory. They used dry chemical to extinguish the fire, which was contained in the drip pan on the grill. The restaurant was shut down and the Board of Health was notified. Fire officials estimate \$500 worth of damage.

Thursday, Jan. 3

- At 10:46 a.m., a 36-year-old Hamlet Street man suffered a diabetic reaction. Firefighters checked the man's vital signs, checked his oxygen saturation level, and administered oxygen. Rescue with paramedics transported him to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

Friday, Jan. 4

- At 10:17 p.m., the Fire Department received a call regarding a brush fire at Menotomy Rocks Park. Firefighters used approximately 250 gallons of water to extinguish the fire.

Saturday, Jan. 5

- At 11:39 a.m., a 75-year-old Newport Street resident complained of having chest pain. Firefighters checked the man's vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue and paramedics transported him to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

MEETINGS

Thursday, Jan. 10

- Reservoir Committee meets at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, first-floor conference room. The agenda includes a proposed warrant article for the Res.
- Historic Districts Commission meets at 8 p.m. in the Whittemore-Robbins House. The agenda includes a proposal to enlarge the Pleasant Street Historic District.

Monday, Jan. 14

- School Committee Goals Subcommittee meets at 7 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Arlington High School, sixth floor.
- Board of Selectmen meets at 7 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall.
- Special Town Meeting reconvenes at 8 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium to discuss the sale of the former Symmes Hospital property.

Tuesday, Jan. 15

- Arlington High School Council meets at 5 p.m. in the Principal's office, Arlington High School.

- Minuteman Regional High School Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. in the high school, 758 Marrett Road, Lexington. The school's budget is on the agenda.

Wednesday, Jan. 16

- School Committee Goals Subcommittee meets at 7 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Arlington High School, sixth floor.
- Vision 2020 Standing Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, second-floor conference room.
- Human Rights Commission meets at 8 p.m. in the Jefferson Cutter House.

Thursday, Jan. 17

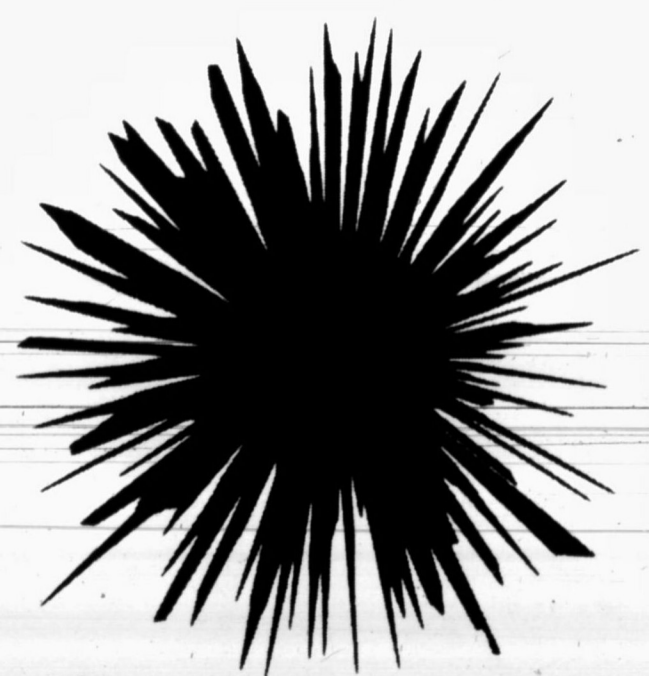
- Conservation Commission meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, second-floor conference room.

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Cutty Sark 1.75L \$24.98		

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VO 1.75L \$19.98	Kendall Jackson Chard. 750 ML \$9.98
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	Estancia Cabernet & Merlot \$11.98
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Performance

Magpie Puppets will present "Leopard Learns a Lesson" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13 in the Calvary Church Hall, located at 300 Massachusetts Ave.

All proceeds will benefit the family of Tony Cuffe, who succumbed to cancer on Dec. 18. Cuffe, a Glasgow native, was a founding member of the Scottish group Ossian. A multi-talented performer, he played guitar, harp and whistle in addition to being a fine traditional singer. He is survived by his wife and their three children, who live in the Boston area.

Based on a folktale from Malawi, Africa, "Leopard Learns a Lesson" tells the story of a mother, leopard and her son, who have been bullying smaller animals. The leopards learn, along with the audience, that cooperation works better than intimidation. In addition to the leopards, the cast includes an intellectual elephant, a riddle-telling rhinoceros, two resourceful rabbits and a clever bee. The show features original music composed by Alison Reid.

Magpie Puppets, a one-woman hand-puppet theater founded in 1976, performs at schools, libraries, and community events throughout New England. Director Maggie Whalen took classes in tin whistle with Cuffe and attended many of his concerts.

The suggested donation is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children. For more information, contact Magpie Whalen 781-643-4741, magpie1976@juno.com, www.magpiepuppets.com.

LWV tea

On Sunday, Jan. 13, from 2 to 5 p.m., the League of Women Voters will have an afternoon tea for members, prospective members and the public at large.

Charles Foskett, chair of the Symmes Advisory Committee to the Board of Selectmen, will be present to answer questions and hear concerns and recommendations.

For further information about

this event you may call Jean at 781-643-0349 or Carma at 781-643-7622.

Story times

Story times for preschool children will resume in January at the Fox Branch Library.

Stories for 2 1/2 to 3 year olds will be held on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. from Jan. 15 through Feb. 12 and for 4 to 5 year olds at 10:30 a.m. on the same days. The sessions of stories and finger plays will be followed by a simple craft. Please sign your child up for these programs by calling the Fox Branch Library at 781-316-3198.

Lap-Sit stories for babies and toddlers up to age 2 1/2 will take place on Thursdays, Jan. 17 through Feb. 14 at 10 a.m. A brief story time is followed by a simple art activity, age appropriate toys and a chance to socialize. Children must be accompanied by an adult who will sit on the floor and participate in the songs and singing games. No sign up is required for this program.

Fox Branch Library is located at 175 Massachusetts Ave., on the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Cleveland Street. Hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Wednesday 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Discussion

The Lesley Ellis School, in association with Families First, Cambridge, is sponsoring a discussion on positive approaches to discipline, Thursday, Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m., in the Lesley Ellis Library, 41 Foster St.

Entitled, "Things Kids Do That Drive Us Nuts: Positive Approaches to Discipline," the discussion will explore why children engage in frustrating behaviors and will offer positive discipline strategies that parent can use in responding to teasing, hitting, whining, and other troublesome behavior.

Sponsored by the Lesley Ellis Parent Education Committee, this event is free and open to all interested parents. For more information, contact Marissa Briggett at 781-641-3754.

Town remembers former superintendent

Devine spent 10 years at helm

BY LES G. MASTERTSON
STAFF WRITER

Former Superintendent of Schools Walter Devine died Jan. 2 at his home after a long illness.

Devine's story is one of a man who rose through the Arlington Public Schools to the top position of superintendent, replacing William Gibbs in 1983. After 10 years at the helm, Devine's tale took a different turn when he and the School Committee severed ties after some internal battles between Devine and board members.

At the time, the committee was comprised of nine members and the board split 6-3 against Devine. Two of the three who supported the superintendent were William Carey and Carolyn Simmons.

Carey, whose 30 years on the School Committee ended last year, said Devine was always "up front" with him and was a "true gentleman."

"I think the schools are better off for Walter being there," Carey said.

Simmons said she knew Devine for around 15 years. She met him when she was a parent volunteer and the two became friends. Simmons later was Devine's boss as a School Committee member.

"The kids came first for Walter," said Simmons on Monday after returning from Devine's funeral in Hingham.

In June 1983, a majority of the School Committee chose Devine, the director of pupil personnel services, as superintendent. The vote 6-3 came down on gender lines with the six male members

voting for Devine, while the three female members sided with Dr. Joseph Wood. After the 6-3 vote, the School Committee held another vote, which made it unanimous for Devine.

Days after the decision, Devine told *The Advocate*: "I was really excited and very pleased and believe me looking forward to the challenge I have facing me in the next many years as superintendent."

Thinking back on Devine's time as superintendent Carey remembered that Devine always prepared the committee and didn't spring any new information on them during meetings.

"When you walked into a School Committee meeting, you knew what was going on," said Carey. "It was the same case with the other two superintendents I worked with."

Referring to the former superintendent's tenure in Arlington, Thomas Trevisani, past chairman of the English Department, recalled Devine's "extraordinary compassion for his staff and belief in the dignity of his fellow man."

According to Carey, Devine was in charge when the town's schools went from a junior to middle school system. Carey also credited the former superintendent with laying the ground work for education reform in the Arlington schools.

During Devine's time in Arlington, Simmons said the schools looked to renovate the schools and grappled with Proposition 2 1/2.

"He never wavered; he never complained; he never said a bad word about anyone," said Simmons.

Leaving Arlington

Devine had been superintendent for 10 years when he left Arlington in 1993.

Democrats meeting Jan. 17

The Arlington Democratic Town Committee will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 17 in the Selectmen's Hearing Room, Town Hall, second floor. The building is handicapped accessible.

Our state legislators, Sen. Robert Havern, Reps. Jay Kaufman, Jim Marzilli and Anne Paulsen have been invited to speak. The agenda will also

include discussion of the upcoming caucus planned for Feb. 2.

The ADTC welcomes all Arlington Democrats and takes a strong stand against discrimination on the basis of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity or economic status.

For further information, please call Janice Bakey, 781-643-4345.

His departure caused a battle within the School Committee. Amidst the fighting, Devine said at the time, "I have to tell you that I'm very proud of all the years I've been in Arlington. It's a wonderful community. There have been some ups and downs, but there are in every walk of life."

In a closed door meeting that year, Devine and the School Committee decided to sever ties before the end of the superintendent's six-year contract. In the agreement, Devine received the full payment for the final year of his approximately \$90,000 annual contract, plus an additional \$50,979. Devine also agreed to step down by the end of 1993 and not file a lawsuit against the School Committee, potentially citing age discrimination.

In the more than eight years since Devine left Arlington, Simmons stayed in contact with the man. In fact, Devine called the Arlington resident Dec. 24 to wish her a merry Christmas.

Remembering her friend, Simmons said Devine touched her life, in addition to countless others.

"He supported me all the way," said Simmons. "He changed my life... He was always there for everyone, whether it was the unions, School Committee, kids, or teachers."

In addition to his time in Arlington, Devine also served on the Harvard Round Table for Superintendents, consulted for the New American Schools Development Corporation, where he



Former Superintendent of Schools Walter Devine died Jan. 2.

traveled to Jordan and Morocco to assist in professional development, and was chairman of the Education Department of Stonehill College at the time of his death.

Devine leaves his wife, Mary; two daughters, Mimi Grotto of New York and Margaret Ingalls of Norwell; a granddaughter, Abigail Devine Ingalls; a sister, Madeleine M. Corcoran of Brookline; and a brother, Charles G. Devine of Dedham.

A funeral Mass was held in the Chapel of Mary at Stonehill College on Monday, followed by burial in Hingham Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Italian Home for Children, 1125 Center St., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.

Warrant open until Monday

At its meeting on Dec. 17, the Board of Selectmen opened the warrant for the annual Town

Meeting. The warrant will remain open until the board's meeting on Monday, Jan. 14.

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School Committee, teachers' union spar

Board, officials offended by newsletter

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Taking an opportunity to "clear the air," a grievance hearing was held in open session between the Arlington teachers' union and the School Committee Tuesday.

But the meeting also was a chance for the committee to respond to the December edition of the Arlington Educational Association newsletter "The Reflector," which sarcastically took a shot at the School Committee for postponing the grievance hearings Dec. 11. They were postponed again Dec. 19.

The grievance hearing left more questions than answers, as the details of the grievance were conducted in open session and negotiations were conducted in executive session. Two other grievance hearings, one heard for individual employees and another for the entire group were held in executive session.

"Grievances are never conducted in executive session, and I should have never allowed that to happen," said Virginia Fuller, president of the Arlington Educator's Association, after the meeting.

Fuller said, however, that she had no idea that the committee would ask for the hearing to be conducted in open session until a reporter was already in the room.

"It was sprung on me," Fuller said. "I didn't realize (a reporter)

was in the room until someone told me."

Fuller did say that she felt "the air was cleared and that's a good thing."

Contacted on Wednesday, School Committee Chairman Joani LaMachia told why the hearing was in open session.

"We did it because the grievance was at the beginning of the meeting. We gave them the option if they wanted to and they did," said LaMachia.

"I don't know why [Fuller] wouldn't know that. I think she knows public session versus executive session. I think it is defined pretty clearly," LaMachia added.

The details of the public "class-action" grievance involved concerns from the Arlington Education Association that voluntary meetings after school hours were ostensibly mandatory due to pressure from administrators.

Newsletter Prompts Anger
Several School Committee members took exception to the statements made in the newsletter.

In an allegorical missive entitled "Greetings from Camp," the December issue of "The Reflector" states: "Camp Arlington's Council of Seven rescheduled their important meeting this month. Many camp counselors, especially those who work with our younger campers, had planned to attend the meeting. It was frustrating that the meeting changed on such

short notice. I changed my plans so I could attend the first meeting. Now I have to change my plans so I can go to this one. Good Grief!"

It continues, "Big Mama Kay, Little Mama Jo, the New Papas G&D, and the Council of Seven sent us buttons to wear and goodies to eat because our little campers have made us so proud. They thanked us for doing such a good job with them. We appreciated it."

The second paragraph refers to Superintendent of Schools Kay Donovan, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Joanne Gurry, Human Resources Director Gus Martinson, Chief Financial Officer David Kale, and the School Committee, respectively.

"The Reflector" asserts a message I feel very compelled to address," said LaMachia. "The tone of 'The Reflector' amounts to an adversarial relationship between the teachers and the administration."

She continued, pointing out that, "it's interesting that the School Committee set as its number one priority during its goal setting process the issue of teachers' salaries."

"I'm upset with what was said. If it continues, fine. But don't send it to my house. Save your money," said School Committee member David McKenna.

The frustration the union members appeared to feel spilled over into another article. Another document entitled "Harry Potter's Cloak" states, "It seems that teachers in Arlington have donned Harry Potter's Cloak and become invisible. Oh, they can be seen sometimes on the rare occasion when they must leave school immediately at dismissal or a long awaited appointment... what about the days spent in the classroom until 6 or 7 in the evening... Does the School Committee and Administration know we are working in a professional capacity for hours and hours outside of the school day?"

Fuller said, "I have something to say, too. The last time we were here we did feel very uncomfortable,

rushed and hurried. A grievance is our only legal way to ensure compliance with a contract, and that contract has been violated. We don't do these as a frivolous thing. We don't come in with just little complaints. Our objective is to solve these at the lowest level."

Problem Laid Out

Once a grievance is aired, the union requires an answer from the committee within 15 school days.

Fuller contended that there were several professional development meetings during the course of the fall that administrators implied to be mandatory.

Under the union's contract, teachers are required to attend "no more than three regular meetings each month." With the implication that these professional development meetings were mandatory, she said, teachers were having to attend up to five.

Donovan rejected the grievance in a letter dated Nov. 22. Once the superintendent rejects a grievance, it can be appealed to the School Committee.

"They may be voluntary, but many administrators told their teachers that they'd better go," Fuller said. She added that teachers received phone calls from administrators asking them why they did not attend.

"Are you going to bring up specific names or no?" asked School Committee member Denis Sullivan.

"No," replied Fuller.

But School Committee member Paul Schlichtman challenged Fuller's assertions, citing a passage in a letter presenting an after-school program to teachers.

"The letter says, 'This series of workshops introduces interested classroom staff and all support staff to materials available in their buildings for targeted intervention and support.' Wouldn't you view this as an invitation as opposed to a mandate?" Schlichtman asked Fuller.

"In my mind, they are not," she replied.

Parent: Half-day kids not getting same education as full-day students

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Paul Sheehan handed the School Department a check for \$221.60 Tuesday night. But it wasn't under the best of circumstances.

Taking the check from his wife, Kathleen, Sheehan brought the check to the School Committee meeting to pay for the costs of full-day kindergarten for his son, Brian, who he said is not getting the same education as a half-day kindergarten student.

"Let's call a spade a spade,"

Sheehan said from a prepared statement. "The town of Arlington has set up a curriculum for a full-day kindergarten program; there is no curriculum for a half-day kindergarten program. At our meeting today, (Superintendent of Schools) Ms. (Kay) Donovan told us that she would need to get with our son's principal and teacher to design a half-day program for him. She admitted the same thing our son's teacher told us the first day of school — the kindergarten program has been set up for full day only for quite some time..."

"He wouldn't have gotten Spanish, Art with an art specialist and a library," Sheehan said in a later interview. "It came as a real surprise to us."

Full-day kindergarten began district-wide in 1998-99 as a primarily parent-paid program. For that year, parents paid on a sliding scale, to a maximum \$1,500 a year. For 1999-2000, the maximum parent fee was \$1,200, and in 2001 it dropped to \$500.

State grants and budget allocations have helped reduce the costs, but the committee was unable to eliminate paid tuition this year due to budget restrictions, despite pledging that it would be a high priority.

The requirements of a state

'The town of Arlington has set up a curriculum for a full-day kindergarten program; there is no curriculum for a half-day kindergarten program.'

PAUL SHEEHAN

grant provided by the Department of Education indicate that a school system must phase out or have a concrete plan to phase it out in place.

School Committee member Martin Thrope made a request for that plan back in August, but so far the issue has not been placed on the agenda.

A minority of students are still enrolled in half-day kindergarten. Until recently, Sheehan's son was as well. He stated that the town's own pamphlet sent to parents indicates that no one should be paying for kindergarten.

"We believe that the 'Curriculum Overview for Parents' proves that all kindergarteners be provided with an equal education and that charging a fee for this is wrong," Sheehan said.

He added, "I implore you, the School Committee, to follow through on your promise as stated in your publication."

Given that the comments were made in the committee's Open Forum, no one from the administration or the committee commented.

"Paul Sheehan presented a valid point that we need to look into," Thrope said later.

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Alewife forum planned for Jan. 17

The Coalition for Alewife will hold a regional forum on Thursday, Jan. 17, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Temple Beth El, 2 Concord Ave., Belmont, at the corner of Blanchard Road.

Members of grassroots groups in Arlington, Belmont, and Cambridge will share their concerns about flooding, traffic and land use problems in the Alewife area and decide on solutions on which they can act together.

The public is welcome. The temple has parking in the back and is accessible by MBTA bus.

For more information, contact Aram Hollman at 617-578-3181 or ahollman@aol.com.

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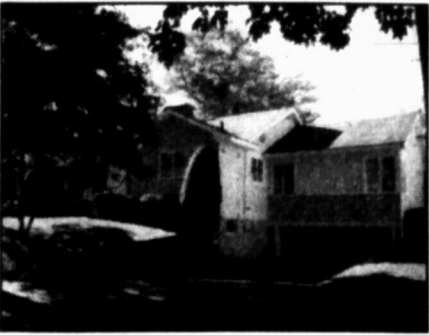
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Town Meeting member proposes community power company idea

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

It's January.
It's cold.

Air conditioning is a distant memory lodged between snorkeling gear and water skis in the garage.

It's a perfect time to talk about bringing public power to Arlington, according to Paul Schlichtman.

"If the roof is leaky when it rains, and it stops raining, you don't suddenly sit in your home and celebrate the lack of water. You go up and fix the roof," said the activist and School Committee member.

Schlichtman is looking for initial approval via a warrant article at the annual Town Meeting in the spring to study the possibility of Arlington forming a public utility. He would like Town Meeting to authorize "about \$10,000 to \$15,000" to initiate a study looking at how much it would cost.

Public outcry was at its peak in the heat of last July and August when numerous power outages in Arlington and throughout greater Boston caused widespread outrage. The outages prompted an investigation by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy, the state authority that regulates NStar. It later fined NStar \$2 million for poor service.

But, by November, when a public hearing was held at Town Hall that gave residents their shot at recommendations about how NStar should be additionally penalized, only a smattering of people showed up. Small power outages have continued, but not to the extent of last summer.

Nevertheless, Schlichtman thinks the time is still ripe. NStar has failed to properly address the problems that led to the power outages, he said.

"Nothing has happened that will change the situation substantively next summer," he said. "A \$2 million fine for poor performance to NStar is like a parking ticket. It's cheaper to pay the parking ticket than to feed the meter," implying that for NStar it's less expensive to pay the fine than to fix the actual problems.

Arlington NStar Plan

At the NStar forum in November, officials laid out a capital plan for Arlington that included an analysis of the infrastructure specific to Arlington that was brokered by members of the Board of Selectmen. Amin Jessa, lead engineer for systems engineering for NStar, said many of the problems were due to "outdated equipment" and that

NStar had replaced or was planning to replace several pieces of equipment at its Woburn substation by the end of 2001.

The company also supplemented its automated customer call center with customer representatives, who could take calls reporting an outage if a customer wanted to talk to a person, NStar said.

"We'd be opposed to (a public utility)," NStar spokesman Mike Monahan told *The Advocate* this week. "Because obviously this is our business. Obviously, we had some issues this summer, but we think it was made abundantly clear that the company has done a very good job in fixing the problems."

But residents continue to endure outages, even small ones, that are irritating and inconvenient.

Martha Scott of Alpine Street, a Town Meeting member who signed Schlichtman's petition, said her home underwent an electrical outage as recently as two weeks ago.

"This wasn't like this a year-and-a-half to two years ago," Scott said. "The frustrating part is that no one seems to understand why."

How it May Work

If Town Meeting approves the article, some kind of study group would be formed. Either a town-appointed committee or outside consultants would determine the fair market value of the lights, poles and other aspects of the grid. Then Arlington would negotiate with NStar to determine a purchase price. If the town doesn't like the purchase price, it could take NStar to court via an eminent domain taking. Eventually the measure would have to go to the voters to establish a municipal light department.

Schlichtman also felt that a way to reduce costs would be to contract out the maintenance of the grid to another, more established municipal light contractor. In the past couple of years, Arlington purchased its streetlights and now the Reading Municipal Light Department maintains them.

In Belmont, where the town has operated its own power department since 1898, Director Tim McCarthy said he would be interested in maintaining Arlington's grid.

"I'd be sincerely interested in it. We did bid on the municipal street lights," McCarthy said.

In Belmont, the Board of Selectmen acts as the electric authority. Only 7 communities utilize their board for this purpose. Out of 40 cities and towns that operate their own departments, 33 have independent commissions that are elected or appointed, he said.

Schlichtman touted that electric

'Nothing has happened that will change the situation substantively next summer. A \$2 million fine for poor performance to NStar is like a parking ticket.'

PAUL SCHLICHTMAN,
TOWN MEETING MEMBER

rates would be cheaper if Arlington controlled its own power. McCarthy said, while the rates are cheaper, that is not the case everywhere, but nor is it the strongest reason why he might think Arlington switching to a public utility is a good idea.

"The real value? I'd almost say that service is more valuable than the money. I know if I don't have someone's power back on quickly they're going to come see me in Belmont Center and say something," McCarthy said.

But, for the record, he conducts quarterly price comparisons. For September 2001, a Belmont customer paid \$51.53 for 500 kilowatts of Belmont power. McCarthy said that is slightly below a typical monthly usage for a single-family home. In Cambridge under Cambridge electric (a subsidiary of NStar), customers paid \$68.16 for power, he said.

Boston Edison customers, including Arlington, paid \$76.43.

He said Belmont's municipal rates are cheaper because of less overhead and some federally-subsidized power only available to public utilities.

"The investor-owned utilities will tell you that we charge cheaper rates and don't pay taxes, but we make a tax contribution of \$550,000, so that's not the case," McCarthy said.

Massachusetts granted authority to cities and towns to form their own light departments in 1891. Forty communities have done it, but no city or town has formed a department since about 1920.

"I'm not 100 percent convinced that we can have our own power source, but we should at least examine it to figure out if we can do it and also to hold NStar's feet to the fire," said Scott.

O'Connor running for Board of Assessors for first time

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

If you want a picture of what an old school Arlington political figure is like, Mary Winstanley O'Connor might be a good place to start.

Although she didn't move to Arlington until she was a freshman in high school, she ran for the School Committee at the age of 18 (she lost). She counts fellow early office seeker and Selectmen Chairman Charles Lyons (who ran for the School Committee at the age of 18 and won) as a friend and mentor.

Undaunted, she went through college and law school, established a practice and got an appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals, where she served for 12 years. Last year, she was appointed to the Assessor's Board after members of the Board of Selectmen approached her and asked her to run.

Most of her family lives in town. Her mother, Selma, is a switchboard operator for Arlington (right next to Selectman Diane Mahon's mom). She works for the Arlington High School Alumni Club and the Zonta Club. She considers fund-raising a hobby.

O'Connor said her commitment to public service reflects a mentality that appreciates the situation she was handed in life.

Taking the Board of Assessors appointment, O'Connor knew, was going to involve more time than her Zoning Board position did, but it didn't sway her.

"I know this is going to sound corny, but I'm a city kid," O'Connor said from her recently-renovated house (she converted it to a Colonial) on the Concord Turnpike, the service road that parallels Route 2. "I see all the wonderful things around here and I think you should be prepared to give back."

Becoming an Arlingtonian

O'Connor grew up in Dorchester and moved to Arlington during her first year of high school. She quickly grew to love Arlington, to the point where she ran unsuccessfully for School Committee and later commuted to Boston College from her home.

"The first night of orientation, I called my parents and said, 'you really need to come get me because I really hate it here,' she recalled. "Fortunately, I had a

group of other women who I knew from high school that I commuted with."

Although she already knew what she wanted to be when she grew up, O'Connor picked the esoteric major of Shakespearean Literature to major in as an undergraduate. Her father called this majoring in unemployment, which caused O'Connor to respond, "But Dad, I'm going to law school."

So off she went to Suffolk Law and got a degree. She augmented her law degree with a master's degree in taxation law from Boston University.

This was not her calling. "I did tax law for about six years and it bored me to tears," she said.

She has worked for Gaffin and Krattenmaker, P.C., since 1985, a Boston firm with an office in the Prudential Center. Professing that "I like being in court," she now specializes in civil litigation, a lot of divorce work, construction litigation, product liability.

Seniority has curbed her traveling, so O'Connor has more time to dedicate to public service (the 45-year-old said she actually hopes to work part-time by age 55). Given her background in taxation law, the Board of Assessors was a good place for her to be.

Her mettle was instantly challenged by getting appointed in 2000, a re-evaluation year. As property owners in Arlington well know, the value of their homes surged as high as 40 percent.

In all, the Board of Assessor's took in nearly 1,100 applications for abatements last year. Every Monday, during the spring they examined them. As decisions were reached, she said, most people understood that the values reflected what was happening in greater Boston. But the board still spent the summer on Monday nights conducting 15-minute hearings from residents as to why their abatements should be upheld.

"I don't think a single person walked out mad," O'Connor said. "Wait. One guy walked out mad. But that's not too bad."

O'Connor has only been on the job a year after replacing Maurice "Bud" O'Connell, so not running wasn't really an option. O'Connor sees 2002 as "a quiet election



Mary Winstanley O'Connor

year" with no visible candidates confirmed or even rumored to be challenging for any elected office.

It leads to the question: why aren't people running? For someone who has chosen public service O'Connor doesn't see it as a problem.

"There's a lot more involvement now than 10 years ago because of the changing demographics that can be seen as civic," O'Connor said. "Look at all the neighborhood associations that have cropped up. You would have never seen that 10 years ago. When I started with the ZBA, no one ever came to object; now there's lots of community involvement, from abutters and the like."

There's one more qualification that O'Connor fits for being a local pol. She's a diehard Red Sox fan and baseball fan in general. Her family bought her an entire outfit for Christmas: baseball hat, shirt, the whole deal. She referred to Cleveland's Jacobs Field, a favorite stadium of hers, as "the Jake."

O'Connor likes to travel and to help raise money for nonprofit organizations, including acting as New England director of fund-raising for the Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch. O'Connor is Syrian on her mother's side.

She also raises money for herself in other private ventures. O'Connor owns a coin-operated laundromat in Malden and just sold Deco's Lounge in Somerville, although she still owns the building.

She's busy. And that's a good thing.

"The busier you are, the more you get things done," she said.

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Traffic change near Hardy approved

Neighbors speak out against plan

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

"Do Not Enter" was a wise decision for those in the selectmen's chamber who weren't there to debate the removal of a single sign near the Hardy School.

A recommendation by Hardy School Principal Gerald Carmody and Arlington Police Services to allow access onto Brooks Avenue during peak traffic hours erupted into a shouting match at times.

In the end, the board voted 4-1 to open Brooks Avenue only from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. on a 90-day trial period. The vote was against the wishes of neighbors, who interrupted board deliberations when they felt their opinions were not respected. The restriction from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. will remain in effect. Selectman Diane Mahon opposed the plan.

Until Monday night, Brooks

Avenue was closed off heading away from Lake Street during those hours.

The contentiousness crept out the door after the meeting.

"I was displeased with Mr. Lyons' sarcasm," said Armand Dedekian of Brooks Avenue, referring to the way the chairman of the Board of Selectmen Charles Lyons spoke to Elsie Fiore of Mott Street. Fiore is the longtime East Arlington activist, who also testified at the board meeting. "Second, when he was summarizing the issue as convenience versus safety, that's not what we were talking about. It was safety versus safety."

Fiore, who resigned from the Mugar Advisory Committee last year over what she termed "bad behavior" by Lyons, said later that she was "used to it."

The police and principal made the suggestion because they felt

that keeping Brooks closed was diverting traffic onto Chandler Street, the designated drop-off point for Hardy students in the morning.

But neighbors argued that parents drop their children off on Brooks Avenue, letting them run across the street instead of using a crosswalk. So, they said opening up Brooks creates more of a safety risk than it prevents, in addition to allowing motorists who grow annoyed at the stalled traffic on Lake Street to take out their accelerator frustration on Brooks Avenue.

"The real problem down here is lack of education. Parents need to cross their children on the crosswalks," Fiore said.

"We addressed a range of issues including children's safety, but it seemed (the board) was not interested in anything more than children's safety," said Kirsten Wever of Brooks Avenue.

"I request that the selectmen reverse the decision," said bicycle

and pedestrian activist Paolo Marinelli, who attended the meeting. "It is impossible to tell the impact on the neighborhood without a study of the preexisting condition."

Safety Officer David McKenna said the department is trying to enforce the drop-off point.

"We have sent out flyers to try and get parents to cooperate. Easier said than done," McKenna said.

Mahon joined the neighborhood against the measure. She asked Carmody why they couldn't get the neighbors, the PTO and the police together and discuss the issue. Initially, Lyons interrupted, saying that Carmody didn't have to answer the question. But Carmody agreed to meet with the groups, saying that this plan "wasn't the ultimate solution."

"Mr. Carmody himself says that this isn't the ultimate solution and I think just having a policy of having one place to enter is not a good policy," Mahon said.

Town awaits Larder's signature on separation agreement

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Town Counsel John Maher indicated this week that he has drafted an agreement that would end Police Officer Frank Larder's employment with the Arlington police, but so far Larder has yet to sign it.

Maher said he will decline all future comments on the case, which involves an officer who has not returned to work since he was honorably discharged as a member of the U.S. Coast Guard in

Florida. Larder was activated after the Sept. 11 attacks.

"All I can say is that we're continuing to negotiate," Maher said.

The Arlington Advocate has filed a Freedom of Information Act request to view the "separation agreement" between the town and Larder. Maher indicated he will comply with the request, but will take the full 10 days he is allowed under the law to hand over the document.

He indicated that Larder had retained local counsel. Two phone calls to attorney Donald McNamee

at his State Street office in Boston were not returned.

Larder, reached at his Long Boat Key, Fla., residence Tuesday, declined comment.

Maher had attempted to contact Larder at his Coast Guard post in Florida and ended up speaking to his commanding officer, who told him that Larder had been discharged in October.

The town had agreed after the Sept. 11 attacks that public employees who were called to military duty would remain "economically whole," according to Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Charles Lyons. They would continue to receive their full

salary, benefits and accrue time toward retirement; in exchange, they would turn over their military pay.

But it appears that Larder has been collecting a full paycheck from the town until recently while not serving in the military since October. According to 2000 salary figures, Larder made a base salary of \$73,134.

Town Manager Phil Farrington indicated that he believed that Larder had "about a year" to go before he reached the maximum on his retirement benefits.

"People are asking the question, 'what was he thinking?'" Farrington said.

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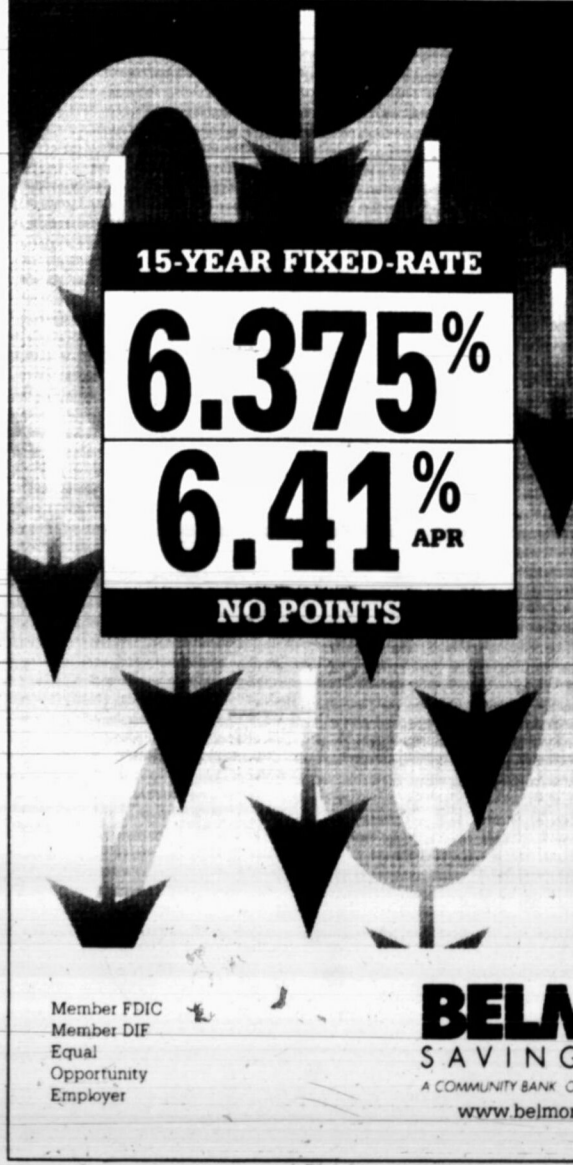
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1/02

Reconstruction plan on Forest Street axed

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Of a number of road projects that will be delayed due to state budget cuts, the reconstruction of Forest Street will be the largest.

The state has zero-funded Chapter 90 money, the state budget allocation that handles highway and road projects. Director of Public Works Director Rich Bento said state officials told him to not expect any money for 2003.

"It has really fallen into disrepair, especially due to work by the gas company and our own water main breaks and the road was not well constructed to begin with," said Bento.

The Forest Street project was expected to cost about \$325,000, he said.

The state provides a variable amount of money each year for roadway aid. But in recent years, because of high state surpluses, the money has been flowing, said Rep. James Marzilli (D-Arlington).

"During the mid-1990s when state revenues grew, the Legislature initiated greater amounts of Chapter 90 to repair the roads and bridges. It happened for just enough years that it started to look like a normal appropriation," Marzilli said.

The town will also place a rubber-seal program on hold. Rubber sealing places a half-inch to one-inch coating on streets, helping to prolong their life. More extensive than chip sealing but less involved than a full rebuild, the town wanted to rubber-seal Park Avenue, Eastern Avenue, and Appleton

Street this year.

Town Manager Phil Farrington said some programs will be spared the axe because the town has a reserve in place of about half a million dollars. But the \$500,000 is already accounted for.

A water main replacement program in the Fountain Road area will stay on track, Bento said, along with chip-seal programs in the summer. Chip sealing is a more temporary measure that applies a layer of finely crushed gravel on road surfaces.

Chip seal programs in the fall, he said, may have to be reduced, "which is not too smart," Bento said.

"We have money this year, but if we don't get state money next year all we'll have is the town allocation (which comes from the capital budget)," Bento said.

At least one resident was not so concerned. Edward McCarthy who lives at the end of Forest Street, said, "in my opinion, and I've lived here 23 years, it would be a speedway if they redid it. It's bumpy a lot of the way now and they still travel fast."

Meanwhile, Farrington said the project to rebuild Summer Street (Route 2A) stays afloat. With guidance from the town of Arlington, the Massachusetts Highway Department plans a full-scale reconstruction of the roadway from the former Symmes Hospital to the Lexington line. The \$3.5 million project is 100 percent state funded.

"That project is coming from a separate funding source (from the state)," Farrington said.

Bloodmobile coming to Calvary Church

The American Red Cross is asking all eligible blood donors in the Arlington area to give blood on Tuesday, Jan. 15, when the bloodmobile comes to the Calvary Church, 300 Mass. Ave.

Donor hours are 3 to 8 p.m.

According to Cathy Pray, director, "Only five out of every 100 people give blood, and the number of new donors decreased dramatically last year. First-time donors are urgently needed to replace donors who have moved away or become ineligible to donate."

The best way to give blood for the first time is to come with a

friend who is experienced in the donation process. New donors usually find the procedure easy and painless and most will come back regularly to donate.

"The biggest obstacle seems to be overcoming that initial fear," said Pray. "That's why we're counting on our regular donors to help by bringing a friend to this blood drawing."

Most people can give blood through the American Red Cross. Potential donors must be at least 17 years of age, in good health and weigh over 110 pounds. In most cases, donors may give if they are on medication, but should know the names of these medications.

For more information, call the American Red Cross at 1-800-448-3543.

Dems holding caucus on Feb. 2

Saturday, Feb. 2 is the date set for the Democratic Caucus in Arlington.

The action will take place in the auditorium of Arlington High School, 869 Massachusetts Ave., at 10 a.m. The building is handicapped accessible.

At the Feb. 2 caucus, Arlington will elect 36 delegates and 10 alternates to participate in the 2002 Massachusetts Democratic Convention. Delegates are divided equally between men and women. The Democratic Convention will be held on Friday, May 31, and Saturday, June 1, at the Worcester Centrum in Worcester.

The caucus is open to all registered Arlington Democrats. Candidates are advised to bring a copy

of their party enrollment if they register after Jan. 1, as they have until Feb. 1 to register. Delegates must be present at the caucus to be nominated and give their consent of same in writing.

The Arlington Democratic Town Committee welcomes and invites all registered Democrats to participate. We strongly believe in equality and do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, ethnic identity, philosophical persuasion, economic status or disability in the conduct of Democratic party business. If interested in being involved you must arrive at the caucus within 15 minutes of the stated time (10 a.m.) to participate.

We invite you to come and participate on Feb. 2. If you need more information, please contact Janice Baky, chairman, at 781-643-4345.

Submitted by the Arlington Democratic Town Committee

Reps holding meeting

The Arlington Republican Town Committee will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 22 in the Community Safety Building, 112 Mystic St. More details to follow in next week's Advocate.

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Informational Open Houses are scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, 2002 at 6:00pm (applications for current school year only) and Tuesday, February 5, 2002 at 6:00pm (applications for 2002-2003 school year). The open houses will take place at 15 Webster Avenue, Somerville, MA.

Sign-ups for building tours will be available at the open houses and in Main Office at 15 Webster Avenue.

For more information, please call Cathy Traniello at (617) 629-5800.

Library officials face cuts in budget

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

A decline in state funding may impact books, slides and computer databases in Arlington's two libraries.

"Every library in the state is going to feel the impact," said Edward Bertorelli, chairman of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. The Boston Public Library was the only public library in the state to receive a funding increase (10 percent), according to Bertorelli.

In Arlington, the pinch totals \$4,049.67, a 6 percent decrease over what Arlington expected to receive from budget estimates produced last year.

The Legislature's budget agreement calls for cuts of about 7 percent to municipal public libraries as well as cuts to library services for the blind and physically handicapped.

Besides cutting aid to public libraries by \$737,000, the Legislature also slashed funding for the Board of Library Commissioners' administration and communications budgets. The latter pays for public libraries.

The blind also suffered under the state budget agreement when it called for a cut of up to \$450,000 for the Talking Book Program at Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown, which gives the blind access to newspapers and other periodicals.

Arlington Library Director Mary Ellen Loud said direct aid to Arlington helps fund part of the membership seat at the Minute-man Library Network, a consortium of libraries northwest of Boston. It also funds Sunday hours and the library's own operating network.

As for cuts, "That's something that we will be developing later," Loud said. "It could be we've got less to spend in any

library materials." She did not rule out reducing programs.

Loud said cuts in funding to the Metro West Regional Library System will also impact local services.

"State money goes to delivery service for the inter-library loan program and funds electronic databases like the business resource center," Loud said.

In all, a total of 16 databases are funded regionally, and some of them may be eliminated, she said.

Locally, budget woes are sure to find their way to the Robbins and Fox libraries. With the town looking at a \$1.4 million deficit and no obvious funding sources to bail it out, times look tight.

Loud said she already submitted her budget to the town manager.

"We didn't try to make up the difference in state cuts," she acknowledged.

ARLINGTON NEWSMAKERS

• Army National Guard Pfc. David G. Meyer has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

The soldier received training in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history and traditions.

During infantry training, he developed basic combat skills and battlefield operations and tactics, and experienced using various weapons and weapons defense available to the infantry crewman.

Meyer is the son of Bruce and Jane Meyer of Arlington. He is a 2001 graduate of Arlington High School.

• Army Lt. Col. Steven J. Mullins has deployed to a forward operating area to support the mission of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Mullins is a Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (STARS) deputy mission crew commander normally assigned to the 12th Airborne Command and Control Squadron at Robins Air Force Base, Warner Robins, Ga.

He is the son of Jean R. Mullins of Lawndale Road, Stoneham and brother of Lisa J. Mullins of Arlington.

The colonel graduated in 1974 from Stoneham High School, and earned a masters degree in 1984 from Golden Gate University through the military extension program at Fort Huachuca, Sierra Vista, Ariz.

Events planned for MLK birthday observance

The METCO program is the focus of the Arlington Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday in Arlington this year with two events planned to celebrate the 35th year of our community's participation in this program.

• The annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance is planned for Monday, Jan. 21 at 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Arlington.

The 14th annual King Birthday Observance features speaker Jean McGuire, executive director of the METCO program. The evening begins with its traditional potluck supper in the First Baptist Church hall. Those planning to attend the supper are asked to bring a main dish or dessert sufficient to serve six adults. At 7:30 p.m., the program begins in the church sanctuary and those who cannot attend the supper are welcome to come for the program.

McGuire has been the executive director of the Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity, Inc. (METCO) since 1973. METCO is a voluntary program that brings African-American and

Hispanic children from inner-city Boston to attend schools in predominantly-white suburbs.

The program aims to provide these children with an excellent education in grades kindergarten to 12, while providing a means for children of different backgrounds to learn more about one another.

In addition to her work for METCO, McGuire is a former member of the Boston School Committee and an instructor at Simmons College and the Harvard University Summer Program. She has won numerous awards for her work promoting the METCO program and she serves on a number of advisory boards, including the Boston Children's Museum and the College of Community and Public Service at the University of Massachusetts.

Music will be provided by the Shiloh Baptist Church Youth Choir of Medford and presentation of an award to a community member who has worked to embody the ideals of Dr. King. A free-will offering will be taken, with proceeds to be divided among the King Center for Non-

Violent Studies in Atlanta and the Arlington Public Schools for its social-studies program and the Arlington African American Society's scholarship program.

The First Baptist Church is located at 819 Massachusetts Ave., and all are welcome.

• In addition, a special family program for all community members is planned at the Hardy School on Friday, Jan. 18 from 6 to 8:15 p.m.

The program begins with a pasta dinner provided by Arlington Schools Food Services. Arlington families attending are asked to bring a dessert to share.

Entertainment at this event will be provided by Janice Allen, an award-winning musician and story teller who presents African-American folk tales and gospel music in a highly-participatory program designed to show all children the important role African-American culture played in shaping the United States.

The family program is designed for elementary school age children, their parents and METCO

alumni. METCO students can make plans through their schools to remain in Arlington on Friday afternoon and meet their parents at the Hardy School.

Because of the expected popularity of this event, free tickets will be required. Tickets can be obtained through the METCO coordinators at the Bishop, Hardy, Peirce, and Thompson Schools or at the Robbins Library Children's Department or the Fox Branch Library in East Arlington.

For additional information about the family program, please call the Robbins Library at 781-316-3234.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance Committee, an interfaith community organization, is the sponsor of the annual program. The family program is co-sponsored by the King Birthday Observance Committee, the Arlington METCO program, and the Robbins Library Russell Fund.

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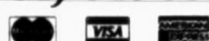
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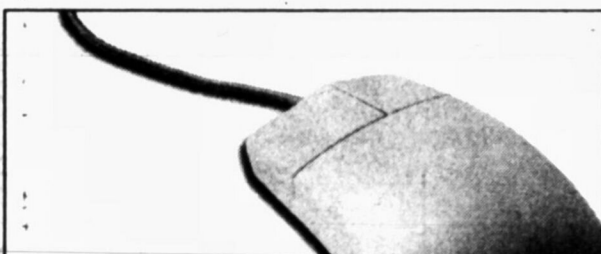
Commission on Disabilities.

Please submit resume to Town Manager's Office, town of Arlington, 730 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, MA 02476.

Workers needed for election

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Sandy or Jean in the office of the Board of Selectmen at 781-316-3020.



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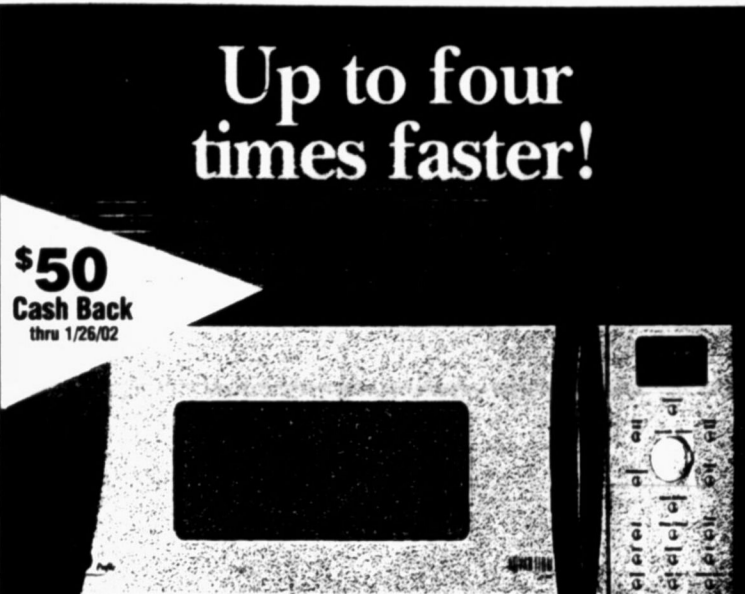
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LEARNING

SCHOOL NOTES

MCAS forum

The Arlington Parent Education Forums for 2001-2002 have added a program, "MCAS Perspectives and Practices, Arlington High School and Ottoson Middle School, 2001-2002."

Moderated by Joanne Gurry, assistant superintendent of schools, the forum is set for Thursday, Jan. 17, 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Media Center, Arlington High School.

This forum will provide an opportunity to learn about the integration of the "frameworks," the state-required curriculum, into Arlington's comprehensive program and the provision of support for MCAS testing.

To see all forums, go to <http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/forums.htm>.

Program seeks volunteers

The Arlington Child Assault Prevention Program (CAPP) seeks new volunteers to deliver the program to grades 1 and 3 in the Arlington Public Schools.

CAPP is a primary-prevention program that aims to empower children to keep safe by understanding their rights to be safe, strong and free. The program encourages children to stand up for themselves and to go to trusted adults in their life when they need help.

Arlington has had great success over the past 10 years in delivering the program to elementary schools. To continue the work, they are seeking volunteers willing to work in classrooms a minimum of five hours a year. The initial training will take place Tuesday, Jan. 29, from 6:30 to 10 p.m., and Tuesday, Feb. 5, from 7 to 10 p.m. It is necessary to attend both evenings.

Further information: Carlene Newell (781-316-3571) or Cindy Bouvier (781-316-3570).

Family night planning

Monday, Jan. 14, cultural enrichment committee, planning family night at the school the first week of March. Aiming for a celebration of reading and writing. Laurie Foster's, 21 Longfellow Road at 7:30 p.m. (781-646-8351).

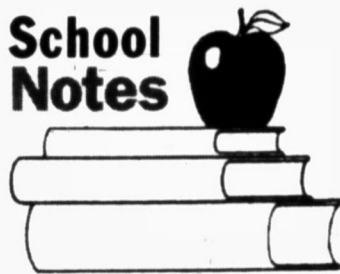
Upcoming at Brackett:
Tuesday, Jan. 15, 7 p.m. in library, meeting for third-grade parents to plan Colonial Day May 10. Contact: Molly Simmons (646-4296) and Melinda Fried-

man (641-4676).

The PTO is seeking a committee to organize the June Fair. If interested, contact Elena Bartholomew (781-646-4678) or Lynn Wilson (781-643-3638).

Thompson fest planning

A planning meeting for the 2002 International Festival is set for Tuesday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m., at the home of Emily Morrison. Parents are invited to attend and children are also welcome.



Those involved will look at activities from the past two festivals and brainstorm for any new ideas

for this year's festival, which is scheduled for March 23.

Please contact Emily at 781-648-7539 or Vicki Rose at 781-316-3774 if you can attend and/or if you are interested in being on a committee for the festival.

Upcoming at Thompson:
National Geography Bee, school library, 2:20 p.m. today, Thursday, Jan. 10. All in fourth and fifth grades participate. Finalists are: Trevor Donoghue, Ryan Figueroa, Chris Jones, Chris Kenney, Justin Lewis, Jude Pappas, Alex Wallach-Hanson, Ben Watts, Josh Watts and Tyler Williams.

PTO Parent Evening with Joanne Gurry, assistant superintendent of curriculum and student instruction, on Tuesday, Jan. 15, at 7 p.m. Gurry will discuss the elementary school curriculum. What will your child be learning in grades K-5? What are the "frameworks?" What about the MCAS? Who makes decisions about what is taught? Come to the PTO Parent Evening and find out. There will also be a brief presentation about PTO activities and refreshments will be served.

Students in the Title I program and their parents are invited to breakfast in the Thompson gym on Wednesday, Jan. 16, at 7:30 a.m. The Title I director and staff will meet with parents and students and talk about the Title I program for this year.

The musical talents of a Bolivian group called Sumaj Chasquis will entertain Thompson students Friday, Jan. 25. This performance is brought to the students through the PTO Cultural Enrichment fund.

Ottoson survey

How do those who use the Ottoson Middle School view the building and the education that goes on inside it?

You can find out by reading the Ottoson School Council report detailing a survey of attitudes among teachers, students and staff.

The survey was completed last May. The report has just been made available. It is the result of a two-year effort by the council, which began using results as they became available to develop a school-improvement plan and to put into effect many changes at the school.

Only 50 copies were printed. They are available at Robbins Library and the Ottoson Media Center, said council member Erin Phelps.

Copies of the report have been sent to each Arlington principals, the superintendent and chairs of the School Committee, Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and Arlington Youth Consultation Center.

A summary of the report is online at http://arlingtonma.virtualltownhall.net/Public_Documents/ArlingtonMA_Schools/ArlingtonMA_SchMisc/%23477237

The report has been posted in full at <http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/schools/Ottoson/OttosonReport01.pdf>.

Stratton Math Night

The Stratton PTO enrichment committee is planning a Math Night for the Stratton community, set for Wednesday, Jan. 17.

At the event, parents will have an opportunity to see and experience a general overview of the math curriculum at Stratton and all Arlington elementary schools.

PTO members with special knowledge of the state-required curriculum, known as the "frameworks," will be available to explain and demonstrate the various math activities for that evening.

Volunteers are needed. Contact Bernadette Scutti (781-648-4322).

Upcoming at Stratton:
Children in grades two and three to meet Lucinda Landon, author of the Meg Mackintosh books, Jan. 23, as part of the library's Mystery Month.
Kindergarten registration, Monday, Feb. 11, 5:30 p.m.; presentation/Information, 7 p.m.; Tuesday, Feb. 12, 9:15 to 10:30 a.m., registration.

AHS calendar

Thursday, Jan. 10, Graduation Requirement Committee, 3 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 15, faculty meeting (faculty only to discuss AHS reaccreditation effort); School Council meeting, 5 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 16, orienta-

Grade 8 parent orientation at AHS

An orientation meeting for parents of incoming grade-nine, class of 2006 students is set for Wednesday, Jan. 16, at 7 p.m., AHS Principal Stephen Woodcock has announced.

The transition from grade 8 to grade 9 can at times appear to be overwhelming; however, the situation can be made less foreboding by a thorough examination of the options available for next September. With that in mind, AHS has scheduled an orientation for all interested parents and students from 7 to about 9 p.m. in the Lowe Auditorium at Arlington High School. Students and parents are encouraged to attend together.

The orientation is designed to answer the wide range of ques-

tions about the high school. Woodcock and House deans will present an overview of Arlington High School programs, and Vincent D'Antona, head of guidance, will host the program.

In addition, Ronald Fitzgerald and William Hayward of Minuteman Regional High School will make a presentation, explaining the benefits of the Minuteman programs. Department heads and program chairs at AHS will also be present.

This orientation is the first step in the AHS enrollment and course-selection process for the 2002-2003 school year. It will be the only large group session scheduled.

AHS is in the process of completing the program of studies for

next year. In the two- to three-week period following the orientation, Program of Studies booklets will be distributed to each grade-eight student, presentations will be made at Ottoson Middle School and the course selection process will begin.

The goals are to complete the course-selection process by the April vacation and to complete the scheduling by the close of school in June. The level of success in that task will depend on how well AHS can orient and educate the incoming students and parents to the process and to the programs available at AHS.

AHS looks forward to working cooperatively with parents and students in that endeavor, Woodcock said.



Paul Hogmon, member of the Menotomy Minute Men, spoke during the Stratton School Library's Celebration of Patriotism. One of the things he explained was the history of the American flag.

tion for incoming grade 8, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 17, MCAS parent forum, 7 p.m., media center.
Monday, Jan. 21, Martin Luther King Day (no school)
Tuesday, Jan. 22, faculty meeting, guest speaker, 2:45 p.m.

Blast Committee meeting

The AHS Last Blast Committee has scheduled an organizational meeting for Wednesday, Jan. 16, at 7:30 p.m., at the Jefferson Cutter House.

The Last Blast is an organized party for seniors, held the night of their graduation, from 9:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. in the school gymnasium.

An Arlington tradition, the party was established more than 15 years ago to provide a safe place for graduation students to be "kids" one last time. Strict rules apply, and there are no alcoholic beverages or illegal substances permitted.

The party committee provides food and entertainment throughout the night. This includes T-shirts, fortune telling, caricaturists, a photo booth, non-permanent tattooing, video games, movies, dancing (with a DJ), contests, raffles and more in the decorated gym.

Planning the Last Blast and staffing the evening are done entirely by volunteers. The committee seeks volunteers to be on the committee for this year's party in all aspects of the event, including food, entertainment, chaperones, decoration, publicity, fundraising, etc.

Information: Wendy Zarrella, 781-646-2291, and Merri Lea Shaw, 781-646-8542.

Community ed

Winter classes at Arlington Community Education are scheduled to start Tuesday, Jan. 22. They continue to April 4. If you are an Arlington resident and have not received a brochure, request one at 781-316-3568 or pick up a copy at the Robbins and Fox libraries.

Classes are held once a week (Jan. 22 - April 4).

For a complete list of courses, see <http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/schools/commmed.htm>.

New townwide tech council announced

How do you get the community involved in seeing that technology and education work together?

One way is to create a townwide technology council to guide the effort, and that's what Steven Mazzola, the new tech chief for Arlington Public Schools, is doing.

Mazzola, who began in October as director of telecommunications and technology, will convene a new council whose main purpose is to advise him about technology issues facing the town's public schools.

The council has 14 members, 13 of whom will vote. Mazzola is seeking those 13 volunteers to sit on the board.

Three of the seats are reserved for residents with students in the system. One parent each will represent elementary schools, the middle school and the high school.

The 14-member advisory committee will comprise the following members:

Director of Technology, chairman;
Parent representative (elementary);
Parent representative (middle school);
Parent representative (high school);
Two School Committee members;

Faculty representative (elementary);
Faculty representative (middle school);
Faculty representative (high school);

Board of Selectmen representative;

Principal representative (K-5);

Principal representative (6-12);

Special education representative;

Town of Arlington MIS representative and

Curriculum representative.

Faculty members are approved by the superintendent with recommendations coming from principals. Board of Selectmen and School Committee are selected by their respective chairs. Their respective department heads recommends others.

This is a new group whose charge is to assist the director in developing educational technology strategies for the school district. The council will meet monthly and will work on the three-year technology plan as well as other issues. Members will also have input and advise on the allocation of technology in the schools. Meetings are open to the public and community participation is always welcome, Mazzola said.

School e-mail lists

You can learn what's going in the following Arlington public schools by subscribing to an e-mail list for that school. They are:
Arlington High School,
Ottoson Middle School (two groups),
Bishop School
Thompson PTO

Each of these e-mail lists is available through Egroups at Yahoo.com. For instructions to subscribe to each list; see <http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/emails.htm>.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

Week of Jan. 14
Monday
Chicken salad croissant, pretzels, fruit snack.

Tuesday
Ham and cheese calzone, tossed salad, sun chips.

Wednesday
Roast turkey, gravy, stuffing, peas, cranberry sauce.

Thursday
BBQ chicken, biscuit, stir fry vegetables, rice.

Friday
Caesar salad with honey dijon chicken, French bread.

Sandwiches, salad, pasta, stir fry, grill and daily specials also offered daily. Fruit, vegetable, bread and milk served with all

meals.

ELEMENTARY

Monday
Sausage, egg and cheese biscuit, potato puffs, grape juice; chicken nuggets, dipping sauce, rice, carrots; toasted cheese sandwich, pretzels, juice bar.

Tuesday
Stuffed crust pizza, tossed salad; cheeseburger, oven baked fries, carrot sticks; fresh fruit salad, yogurt, oatmeal bread.

Wednesday
Roast turkey, cornbread stuffing, peas, cranberry sauce; hot dog, baked beans, apple juice; macaroni and cheese, peas, 12-grain bread.

Thursday
Fajita chicken, rice, carrot sticks; tossed salad with egg, turkey and cheese, pita



bread; personal pan pizza, salad, animal crackers.

Friday
Chicken salad croissant, pasta salad, juice bar; calzone, rice, veggie sticks and dip; egg and cheese twist sandwich, puffs, juice. Fruit, vegetable, bread and milk served with every meal.

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ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE NOTES

The town of Arlington Dollars for Scholars scholarship application is now available in the Guidance Department. The deadline is March 1. Students must request a transcript and return the completed application to Ms. Fischer.

Guidance evening hours — A guidance counselor will be available 3 to 7 p.m., every Thursday. Appointments are not necessary but are recommended. To schedule an appointment, call Marie Boyle Fischer, 781-316-3607.

The Guidance Office/Career Center is open Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. College information videos and catalogs are available to students and parents.

Common applications are available in the Guidance office — Applications may be downloaded via <http://www.common-app.org>.

Selective Service registration — Male students have the responsibility to register. Register on-line at www.sss.gov or at the local post office. Students must register to receive benefits such as student loans, federal job training programs and federal employment.

The Princeton Review www.review.com is offering "jumpstart," an online program to help students with college applications.

Open Houses
Note: When responding regarding attendance, confirm date, time and place of meeting.

Bryant College — Jan. 12. Call 1-800-622-7001.

Anna Maria College (Paxton) — Saturday information session, Jan. 12, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 1-800-344-4586.

Johnson & Wales University (Providence, RI) — Jan. 13 and 20. Call 1-800-343-2565.

Catholic University (Washington, DC) — Jan. 13, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 1-800-673-2772.

Emmanuel College (Boston) — Decision Day program for high school seniors, Jan. 15. Call 617-735-9715.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute — Jan. 15. Call 508-831-5286.

Champlain College (Burlington, Vt.) — Mini open house, Jan. 18, 2 to 4 p.m.; group information session, Jan. 19, 10 a.m. to noon. Call 1-800-570-5858.

St. Joseph College (West Hartford, Conn.) — Financial aid workshop, Jan. 19, 6:30 p.m. 1-800-285-6565.

Loyola College (Maryland) — Saturday information program, Jan. 20, 11 a.m. Call 1-800-221-9107.

Hobart and William Smith Colleges (New York) — Winter regional interviews, Waltham at Waltham High School, Saturday, Jan. 20, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 800-852-2256.

Villanova University — Open House College of Nursing. Call 1-800-338-7927 for date and time.

College financing resources
Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority: www.mefa.org; 800-449-MEFA

U. Fund College Investing Plan: www.fidelity.com/ufund; 800-544-2776

Mass. Higher Education Info. Center: www.heic.org; 800-442-1171

Office of Student Financial Assistance: www.osfa.mass.edu;

800-ED-AID-4U

Federal Student Aid Processing: www.fafsa.ed.gov; 800-FEDAID
College Scholarship Service-Profile: www.collegeboard.org; 800-778-6888

US Department of Education: www.ed.gov; 800-USA-LEARN
Financial Aid Homepage: www.finaid.org

FastWEB Scholarship Search: www.fastweb.com
Gear-Up: www.ed.gov/gearup/
Think College Early: www.ed.gov/thinkcollege/early/

College is Possible: www.collegeispossible.org
Mapping Your Future: www.manning-your-future.org
Collegesource — A college search resource provided to Minuteman Library Network patrons on the home-users page. Log on to www.mln.lib.ma.us.

Massachusetts offers two college savings programs
U. Plan College Savings Program

- Prepaid tuition program
- Lock in tomorrow's tuition at today's rates
- 82 participating colleges and universities
- 1-800-449-MEFA for information

U. Fund college investing plan

- Tax advantaged investing opportunity
- Use at any college for all qualified educational expenses
- Managed funds by Fidelity Investments
- 1-800-544-2776 for information

Wells Fargo Educational Financial Services introduces CollegeSTEPS, a college planning program for high school students. \$250,000 in scholarships. Sign up at www.wellsfargospecial.com.

Scholarships

Cambridge Savings Bank Scholarship Program — Two \$2,500 scholarships, one for a traditional four-year program, the other for a technical/vocational or community college program. Students should have a B average or better, participate in community, school or after-school activities.

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Students must write an original essay, provide transcripts and a recommendation. Applications in the Guidance Department. Deadline is Friday, Feb. 15.

Massachusetts Elks Scholarship — Applications are available in Guidance. Return all documentation to Ms. Fischer by Feb. 15.

Rebekah Assembly of Mass Independent Order of Odd Fellows Memorial Scholarship — \$500 scholarship awarded to seniors who plan to further their education. Applications in guidance. Deadline is March 1.

Harvard Extension Spring 2002 — Lowell scholarship program — Spring classes for sophomores, juniors and seniors with a B average who plan to attend college in an academic or pre-professional field or are preparing to enter secondary school teaching, counseling or administration. For information call 617-496-5000 or www.ext.harvard.edu. Applications are available in main guidance.

Simon Youth Foundation Community Scholarship Foundation — A one-time monetary scholarship of \$1500 to high school students nationwide who plan to enroll in an accredited college, university or vocational-technical school and who meet the program's eligibility requirements. Students must submit the completed application form, official school transcripts and parents' most recently filed tax form by Feb. 14. Applications are available in guidance.

National Association of Asian American Professions — The Significant Achievement and Future Leadership Awards scholarship competition, to recognize those outstanding graduation high school seniors of Asian heritage. Scholarships of \$1000 are being awarded. Call 781-937-7072 or obtain an application in guidance. Applications must be postmarked on or before Saturday, Feb. 9.

Tomorrow's Teachers Scholarship Program — Four-year tuition scholarships offered to eligible students who enroll in a

teacher certification program at any Massachusetts college or university, public or independent (private). Scholarships for students who attend independent colleges are capped at the maximum awarded at public colleges. Students must rank in the top 25 percent of their high school class and agree to teach for four years in a Massachusetts public school. Ms. Fischer has applications; deadline is Feb. 15.

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America Scholarship — Juniors and seniors with asthma or severe allergies are eligible to apply for the two \$500 scholarship by entering an essay contest. Applications are in guidance; deadline is Feb. 1.

Henry David Thoreau Scholarship — A \$30,000 undergraduate scholarship for a Massachusetts high school senior with plans to pursue an interest in the environmental field. The scholarship will be distributed \$7500 per year, for tuition use only. Application deadline is Feb. 1. See Ms. Fischer for application.

Discover Card Tribute Award Scholarships — Juniors with a cumulative 2.75 GPA for the ninth and 10th grades are eligible. Applications and information are in main guidance or online at www.discovercard.com/tribute.htm or www.aasa.org/discover.htm.

National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences — Two \$30,000 scholarships for prospective college students who seek a career in the television industry. Application forms are in guidance.

University of Mass Medical School, High School health career programs — July 8 to Aug. 2. A four week residential program for sophomores and juniors in high school interested in health careers. The tuition-free program includes enrichment classes to improve student academic skills, communication skills, computer skills, and knowledge in science, seminars and lectures. For information call 508-856-2702. Applications are in main guidance with Ms. Fischer. Deadline is March 1.

improvements. Any person or organization desiring to be heard at the public hearing will be afforded an opportunity to be heard.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF A PHASE IV COMPLETION STATEMENT AND TIER II EXTENSION SUBMITTAL

Massachusetts Highway Department District 4 Headquarters
519 Appleton Street, Arlington MA
RTN 3-13560

A Phase IV Completion Statement and Tier II Extension Submittal (310 CMR 40.0879 and 40.0560) has been developed for the above referenced site pursuant to the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (310 CMR 40.1406). This disposal site was classified as Tier II in March 1997.

The Phase IV Completion Statement and Tier II Extension Submittal proposes the following measures to respond to a release of oil and/or hazardous material at this disposal site:

Continued assessment under Phase V Operation and Maintenance Monitoring

M.G.L. c. 21E and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan provide additional opportunities for public notice and involvement in decisions regarding response actions at disposal sites. 1. The Chief Municipal Official and Board of Health of the community in which the site is located will be notified of major milestones and events pursuant to 310 CMR 40.1403 and 2) Upon receipt of a petition from ten or more residents of the municipality in which the disposal site is located, or a municipality potentially affected by a disposal site, a plan for involving the public in decisions regarding response actions at the site will be prepared and implemented pursuant to 310 CMR 40.1405.

To obtain more information on this disposal site and the opportunities for public involvement during its remediation, please contact Kerry R. Tull, Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc., 5 Centennial Drive, Peabody, MA 01960, phone (978) 532-1900, fax (978) 977-0100, e-mail tullk@wsenc.com

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Hilda S. Lugo and Manuel Lugo to Northeastern Mortgage Company, Inc., dated September 14, 1989 and recorded with the Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds at Book 20084, Page 204 as affected by a modification agreement recorded with said records at Book 32375, Page 182, of which mortgage G.E. Capital Mortgage Services, Inc. is the present holder by assignment, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 p.m. on February 1, 2002, on the mortgaged premises located at 299 Park Avenue, Arlington, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

TO WIT:

A certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon situated in that part of Arlington called Arlington Heights, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, now known as 299 Park Avenue and being shown as Lot D on a Plan of Land in Arlington, Mass. dated April 4, 1928, by G. B. Northrup Surveyor, recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds, Book 5219, Page 261, bounded and described as follows:

SOUTHEASTERLY by Park Avenue, seventyfive (75) feet;

NORTHEASTERLY by Lot B on said plan, one hundred ten (110) feet;

NORTHEASTERLY by Lot C on said plan, thirty-four (34) feet;

NORTHEASTERLY again by said Lot C, fifty (50) feet;

NORTHWESTERLY again by land of owners unknown, thirty-four (34) feet;

Containing 9,403 square feet of land.

Said premises are conveyed subject to a right of way nine (9) feet wide on the northeasterly side of said Lot D for the benefit of Lots B and C on said plan.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 20084, Page 203.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California Street, Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

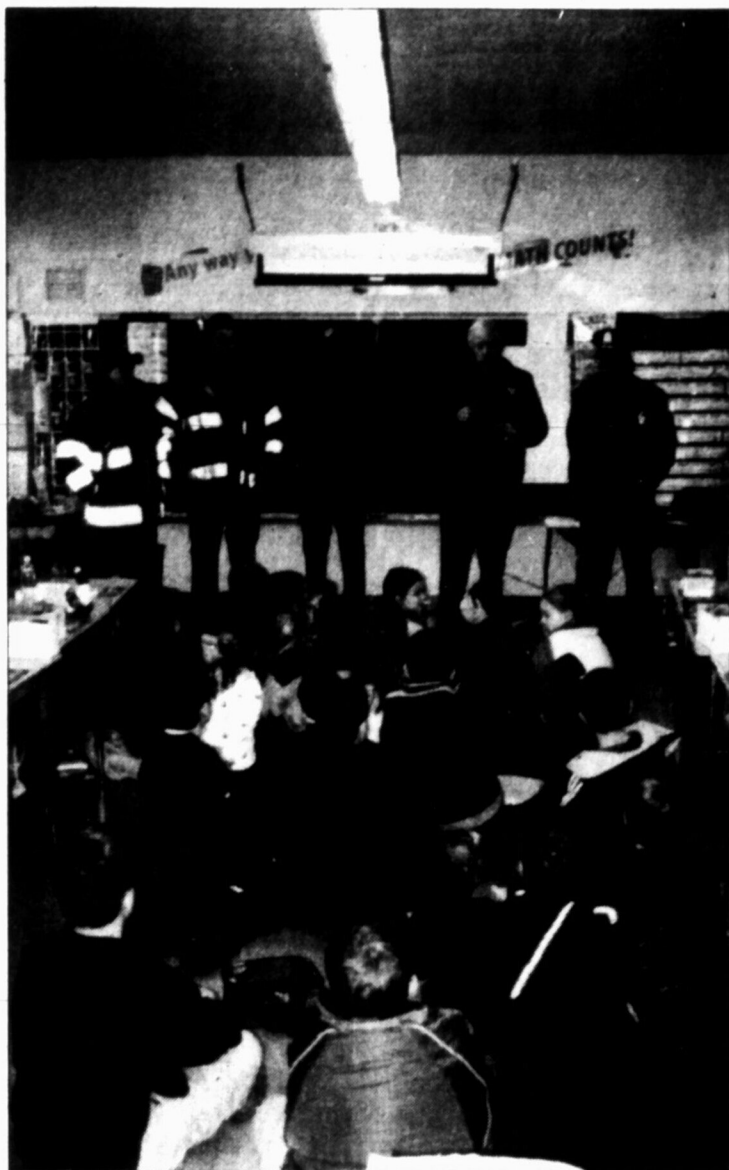
Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

G.E. CAPITAL MORTGAGE SERVICES, INC.
Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
Matthew R. Forbes, Esquire
150 California Street
Newton, MA 02458
(617) 558-0500

AD#761404
Arlington Advocate 1/10, 1/17, 1/24/02

STUDENTS SAY 'THANKS'



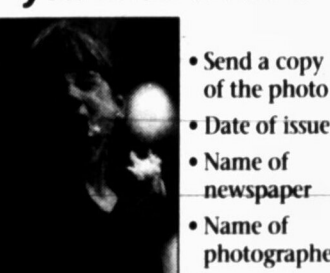
Stratton School third graders decorated pillowcases for the Arlington firefighters and wrote letters of thanks to the Arlington Police Department. The students wanted to say "thank you" to the community safety officials for their protection and service to the community. Representatives from the police and fire also recently went to Stratton to answer students' questions.

ON CAMPUS

• Patrick Howard Meehan received first honors from Ottoson Middle School for the first quarter.

• The following students from Arlington were named to the honor roll at The Rivers School in Weston in recognition of their excellent academic performance during the fall trimester: High Honors: Morganne Kraines, Grade 7; Honors: Alexander Kotatos, Grade 9, and Emma Menz, Grade 9.

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COUPON EXPIRES 1/15/02

<p>CROHAN NAME CHANGE LEGAL NOTICE Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate & Family Court Department MIDDLESEX Division Docket No. 01C-0466CA Notice Of Change Of Name</p> <p>To all persons interested in the petition hereinafter described:</p> <p>A petition has been presented to said Court by Steven Patrick Crohan of Arlington, Middlesex 02476, minor, by Lisa Hersey, his mother and next friend, praying that his name may be changed as follows: Steven Patrick Crohan to Steven Patrick Hersey.</p> <p>If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Cambridge before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the 30th day of January, 2002.</p> <p>Witness, Sheila E. McGovern, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 31st day of December, 2001.</p> <p>John R. Buonomo Register of Probate</p> <p>AD#760849 Arlington Advocate 1/10/02</p>	<p>APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT CAMBRIDGE ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 AM) ON MARCH 27, 2002.</p> <p>WITNESS, HON. SHEILA E. MCGOVERN, ESQUIRE, First Justice of said Court at CAMBRIDGE this day, January 2, 2002.</p> <p>John R. Buonomo Register of Probate</p> <p>AD#761135 Arlington Advocate 1/10/02</p> <p>SYMMES HOSPITAL LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SYMMES ARLINGTON CONSERVATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS</p> <p>A public hearing on the proposed Symmes Hospital Conservation and Improvement Project will be held by the Board of Selectmen and have the Town Manager of the Town of Arlington on Monday, January 14, 2002, in the Selectmen's Chambers of the Robbins Memorial Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, MA, at 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>The boundary of the Arlington Symmes Center Conservation and Improvement Project is as follows:</p> <p>Beginning at a point in the northeast line of Summer Street, running thence N 40 45 00 W by Summer Street, 416.9 feet, thence</p> <p>NORTHWESTERLY by Summer Street by a curve to the right with a radius of 253.11 feet a distance of 89.31 feet to the end of a stone wall, thence</p> <p>N 49 00 55 E by land of Charlson and land of White, 143.78 feet, thence</p> <p>N 47 39 40 E by land of said White, 115.16 feet, these last two bounds being by a stone wall, thence</p> <p>N 47 23 07 E by land of Adams and Faren, 114.52 feet, thence</p> <p>NORTHEASTERLY by lands of Harrison, Miller, Stelandakis, Murray, Morse, Dimmico, Sheahan, Cox and Regan, and the end of Millet Street, and lands of Haller, Miller, Roberts and Learned, in part by a stone wall, 870 feet, thence</p> <p>SOUTHEASTERLY by land of Alden, 123.30 feet, thence</p> <p>SOUTHEASTERLY but more southerly, by land of Alden, Bouvier, Carney, said Alden and Graziano, by a stone wall, 369.93 feet, thence</p> <p>N 51 46 18 E by the Graziano land, 68.82 feet, thence</p> <p>S 38 13 42 E by Brattle Street, 123.93 feet, thence</p> <p>S 46 10 41 W by land of Ringler, 58.96 feet, thence</p> <p>SOUTHWESTERLY by lands of said Ringler, Wright, Giolitto, Gotz, Agostino, Wall and Reichenbach, 575.35 feet, thence</p> <p>S 31 45 16 E by land of Bartlett, 183.98 feet, thence</p> <p>S 34 04 12 W by lands of Schneider, Harrington and McClure, 233.63 feet, thence</p> <p>S 62 53 49 W by lands of Pochini, Albano, Brown and Donovan, 270.13 feet, thence</p> <p>N 79 13 30 W by land of said Donovan and land of Fieldheim and Snyder, 52.00 feet, thence</p> <p>N 37 48 24 W by lands of Griffin and Macone, 137.70 feet, thence</p> <p>S 49 15 00 W by land of said Macone, 182.00 feet to the point of beginning</p> <p>Said parcel containing, according to the plan, a total area of 18.1 acres, more or less.</p> <p>The purpose of the hearing is to consider the Urban Renewal Plan for the undertaking of a project by the Arlington Redevelopment Board under state and local law with state financial assistance under chapter 121 B of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, to install, construct, or reconstruct street and other project improvements and to carry out plans for a program of building rehabilitation and other</p>	<p>improvements. Any person or organization desiring to be heard at the public hearing will be afforded an opportunity to be heard.</p> <p>Mane Krepeika Executive Secretary Arlington Board of Selectmen</p> <p>AD#760848 Arlington Advocate 1/10/02</p> <p>299 PARK AVE</p> <p>LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE</p> <p>By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Hilda S. Lugo and Manuel Lugo to Northeastern Mortgage Company, Inc., dated September 14, 1989 and recorded with the Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds at Book 20084, Page 20</p>
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COMMENT

The Birthplace of "Uncle Sam"

Samuel Wilson

EDITORIAL

Grassroots group battling crime

Watching crime hit their area, the East Arlington Good Neighbors Association is fighting back. The group is informing Alewife MBTA station commuters of the recent indecent assaults that either occurred or were initiated on the Donald R. Marquis Minuteman Trail near the station.

On a sub-freezing night, activists from the East Arlington group, North Cambridge Crime Task Force, Arlington, Cambridge, and MBTA police, state Rep. Anne Paulsen (D-Belmont), and state Rep. Alice Wolf (D-Cambridge) handed out pamphlets and flashlights to commuters as they rushed through the station. The two grassroots groups also set up information tables at the station. They will distribute more pamphlets over the next week at the station, in addition to whistles, which they hope path users will carry with them.

Selectman Diane Mahon also led a safety walk to the trail and shed light on the problem in the area. There are two sets of temporary lights now, in addition to two sets of permanent lights, but Mahon is hoping to add more lighting to Varnum Street.

She also is proposing a "buddy stop" at the Alewife station. This would look similar to a bus stop and allow people to walk in pairs or groups along the path, which is something police have suggested.

Similar stops have been erected in other places and have been successful. They not only provide safety for commuters, but also educate users that there have been previous problems.

EAGNA member George Laite said the East Arlington group is also exploring a crime watch.

Instead of sitting back and hoping the police take care of the problem, the EAGNA and NCCTF are hitting the streets. The work of the two groups, along with the Arlington, Cambridge, and MBTA police, has spread the word about safety and should be commended.

Election guidelines

Guidelines for the April 6 town election.

Candidate announcements: Candidates for townwide office have until March 4 to send in their candidacy announcement. The last issue we will run the announcement is March 7.

The announcement should be under 400 words and can include a submitted photo for publication. As with letters to the editor, we reserve the right to edit announcements for length and clarity.

Letters to the editor: Letters from candidates or supporters should be 400 words or less and must include the writer's name, address, and phone number for verification. Note: *The Advocate* only runs a person's name, street name, and title (where applicable), unless the writer is from out-of-town, at which time we will run the town or city of residence.

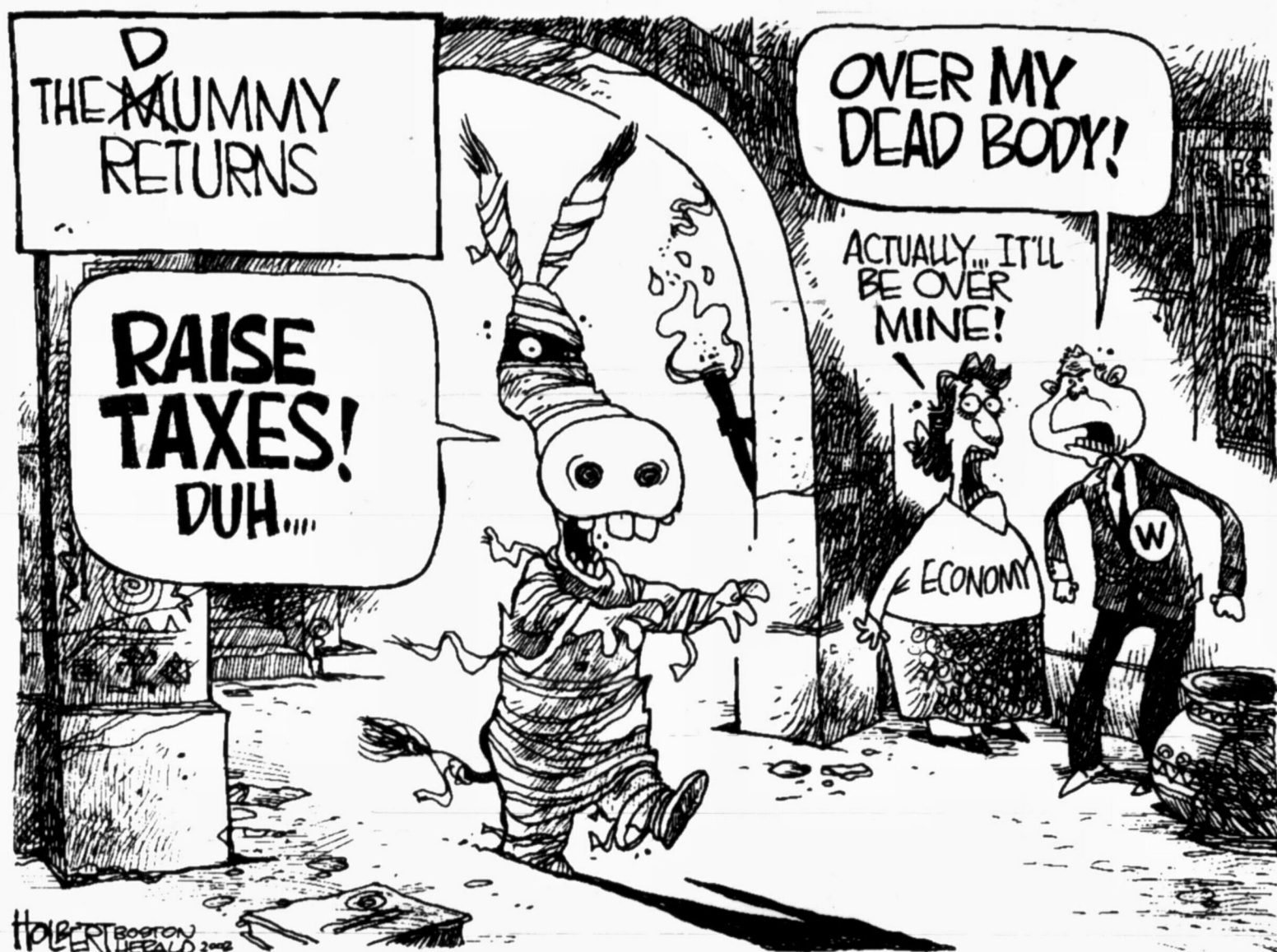
No letters will be published in the issue immediately prior to the election, unless, in the editor's judgment, they are necessary to respond to claims made against the candidate and are limited to that response. Readers are also welcome to submit letters (also with a limit of 400 words) on issues raised during the campaign.

Due to space limitations, *The Advocate* may not be able to run every letter we receive. At that point, we will run a representative sampling of letters.

The most reliable way to send letters is through e-mail. At that time, you are assured that we have received the letter if you receive a response from us. If you fax or mail a letter, it is best that you call editor Les Masterson at 781-674-7726 to make sure the letter has arrived.

Campaign notebook: Candidates can send campaign information that will be included into a campaign notebook. To be assured that items will go into that week's paper, we need candidates' and readers' political correspondence by noon on Monday of the that week.

Candidate endorsements: If there are races for townwide offices, editor Les Masterson will interview the candidates and will write an endorsement editorial for the issue of April 4.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Plow the path

As a daily bike rider on the Donald R. Marquis Minuteman Trail and Arlington homeowner, I think it makes a lot of sense to plow the entire bike path in the winter.

You mention liability ["Permanent lighting not answer for trail," editorial, Jan. 3 *Advocate*], but the town plows the roads, where bike and cars have to operate with their winter driving skills, the bike path is no different. In fact, it is safer for bikes to be off snowy roads in the winter, where the roads are narrower due to curbside snow.

It is also more dangerous to fall off my bike on the road where a car could hit me, than on the bike path, where the most dangerous obstacle for bikers are the dog walkers. Plus, from my conversation with the DPW snow-plowers, they do have the equipment already to plow the bike path, which is wide enough for a truck to drive on, so the only cost is the time and gas.

Don't presume to worry about giving bikers a "false sense of security." I doubt if your editorial writer bikes the path much. Ask the bikers.

Michael J. Brown
Brattle Terrace

Make path safer

The editorial about lighting the Minuteman Trail ["Permanent lighting not answer for trail," editorial, Jan. 3 *Advocate*] and the letter from Duke Briscoe ["Issues with lights," Jan. 3 *Advocate*] missed some important points.

Why aren't we as a town doing everything we can to support people who are willing to use public transportation and walk? Arlington has too many cars; and as a consequence we have too much traffic congestion, air and water pollution, noise, and costs associated with road upkeep and provision of emergency services for accident victims.

All of us would be better off if fewer of us drove cars, or drove cars less frequently. Making the bike path more accessible and safer will help keep cars off our streets.

As it is, the bike path is downright dangerous at night: one experience biking home from work after dark with a weak headlight battery was enough to convince me not to use the trail after nightfall until it is better lighted.

The strong demand for commuter use of the trail is splendid, but clearly wasn't anticipated by the selectmen 10 years ago when they assured residents whose property abutted the trail that lights would not be installed. The trail should have permanent lights for public safety — the same reason that we have lights on our main streets.

Likewise, the bike path should be plowed for commuter use. Let snow remain on the bike path on

weekends for cross-country skiing, but keep it clear for workday commuting.

The concerns about a "false sense of security" are ludicrous — the logical extension of this argument is that the town shouldn't plow streets, because drivers who skid on a patch of ice might sue. Our town facilities are supposed to serve people, not cars. So why do we provide better services to the people who get around in cars than by foot or bike?

Assaults on women walking the trail are completely unacceptable. One assault would be intolerable, but five is outrageous. Better lighting and better patrolling by police are both necessary: both have well documented effects on reducing assaults.

Mr. Briscoe's personal opinion that he can see well enough while walking on the trail at night is irrelevant. I'm sympathetic to the issue of light pollution, but I'm much more sympathetic to women who are afraid to walk home at night because of recent attacks.

Molly Anderson
Lawrence Lane

Supports purchase

The League of Women Voters of Arlington supports Town Meeting approval of the purchase of the Symmes property when it reconvenes on Jan. 14.

This is a rare opportunity for the town to acquire a large piece of property that can be used to further town goals of preserving open space, providing much needed affordable housing, and maintaining and possibly expanding local medical services.

Arlington citizens expressed approval of these goals when they voted by a large margin for a debt exclusion to finance this purchase. The Symmes Advisory Committee is to be commended for encouraging citizen involvement in the process of examining the best ways to develop this property.

The League urges an extensive town-wide discussion of alternatives for the development of this site after town acquisition.

On Sunday, Jan. 13, from 2-5 p.m., the League will have an afternoon tea for members, prospective members and the public at large. Charles Foskett, chairman of the Symmes Advisory Committee to the Board of Selectmen, will be present to answer questions and hear concerns and recommendations.

For further information about this event, you may call Jean at 781-643-0349 or Carma at 781-643-7622.

Board of the League of Women Voters of Arlington
Jean Hopkins
President
Clare Gordon and Meredith Zona
Co-Vice Presidents
Pat Lieberman
Vice President for Action

Questions plan

The following is an open letter to Town Meeting members.

On Monday, Jan. 14, we will be asked to vote on the proposed acquisition of the Symmes property.

The vote which will be presented to us will be in two parts. Part A is to authorize bonding of \$7.1 million, to be paid to Lahey/Health South, as well as the assignment of the property to the Redevelopment Board and approval of a 10-year lease back agreement with Lahey/Health South, which will provide rental income to the town (\$525,000 in each of the first two years and increasing). Part B is to approve a redevelopment plan, not seen as of the date of this letter, by means of which operating expenses, legal fees, cost of consultants to be hired by the Symmes Advisory Committee, and other costs may be bonded under the provisions of Mass. Gen. Laws, Chapter 121B. We will be asked to vote both parts simultaneously, a total of \$14 million.

I have a number of reservations about this proposed vote. My primary concern is that the sum of \$6 million is being asked to fund operating costs of the property for four years at \$1.5 million per-year. The figure of \$1.5 million is said to come from estimates provided by Lahey/Health South, estimates not backed up with any documentation at the Jan. 2 meeting of the Finance Committee, nor at the Jan. 3 meeting of the Symmes Advisory Committee, nor at any other time.

Further, although the lease arrangement with Lahey allows them to terminate the lease in the second year without cause, and although the Symmes Advisory Committee has been told that the planning process could take a year to 15 months, and although the vote seeks authorization of the preparation of a home-rule petition to the state Legislature to allow the \$525,000 rent to be assigned to the payment of costs, still the vote seeks the full estimate of operating costs for four years.

When I have asked why the town would incur two more years of operating costs after the planning process is complete and why it is necessary to appropriate four years worth of cost now rather than having the Town Meeting, which meets every year, appropriate additional funds as needed, I have been given answers which I simply do not find persuasive.

Among them are that we have a duty to Lahey, given that the lease is for 10 years, to assure them that we have the funds to maintain the property. The Town Meeting is not in the habit of denying funds which are proved to be necessary, but the Town Meeting does have a fiduciary

responsibility not to authorize expenditures for which need has not been established. While it is true that 4,441 people voted for the override, Town Meeting's responsibility is to all the citizens of Arlington.

The Town Meeting is being asked to vote the funds and get the budget later. Questioners have been told that just because the bonds are authorized they will not necessarily be issued. But I remind you that, if you authorize the bonding, the funds can be raised and spent and the proposed vote which was sent to us puts no time constraints on the \$6 million expenditure. We are simply told, "trust us."

The proposed price of the property, \$7.1 million is a half-million dollars above the most recent appraised value. According to a consultant's report on the structural and mechanical integrity of the buildings, there are looming systems repair costs within the next five years estimated at \$1.3 million.

The cost of renovating the buildings, estimated at the time of the override to be \$5 million has now been estimated by the appraiser as \$12.8 million for the main building and \$2.3 million for the nurses' building, gut renovation, or \$15.1 million, not including renovation of the 25,000 square feet to be occupied by Lahey.

This is why we no longer anticipate that the town will do the renovations, but will instead "hand off" the property to private developers. What they will pay us for the privilege has been estimated, based upon the appraised value, as between \$6 and 12 million.

It is important for Town Meeting members to remember that if we appropriate \$14 million for purchase, operations and planning and it is all spent, as it may be, \$14 million is the acquisition cost of this site which has been appraised at \$6.45 million and may return \$6 million at "hand off."

I question whether we should do this.

In saying this I mean no disparagement of the efforts of the Symmes Advisory Committee and their financial team, who having had no figures to work with until a few weeks ago, prepared a financial analysis based on limited information in a compressed time frame. While I cannot agree with their conclusions, I acknowledge their dedication and enormous commitment of time to this process.

I believe that if we vote to acquire this property it should be done in a split vote with parts A and B standing alone and vigorously debated. I further believe that appropriating \$6 million for operating costs is not justified and that the sum should be drastically trimmed to no more than two years worth,

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11

The Arlington Advocate

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It is the goal of The Arlington Advocate to provide our readers with the highest quality local coverage they desire and need, in a newspaper that is accurate, timely and filled with an intimate and lively portrait of the community in which they live, work and play.

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